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SOCIAL  
POLICY  
DIRECTORATE

# NSW FAMILIES: A PROFILE

CATALOGUE NO: 4426.1



1994 EDITION

VOLUME ONE



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*Directions — Government Entitlements and Services for People with Disabilities in NSW* (March 1993)  
*People First — Employing People with Disabilities*, VHS video tape (February 1991)  
*People First — Resource List: Assistance for Employers of People with Disabilities*, leaflet  
*Disability Awareness Package Kit*, manual, trigger tapes and facilitator's manual (September 1991)  
*Disability Strategic Plan, Package 1* (December 1993)

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# **NSW FAMILIES: A PROFILE**

SOCIAL POLICY DIRECTORATE  
New South Wales

and

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# **Foreword**

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Families are greatly affected by the rate of social and economic change being experienced in our society. International Year of the Family (IYF) provides a timely opportunity to address current issues for families, and to focus on and strengthen families from all sections of the community.

The NSW IYF Secretariat within the Social Policy Directorate has undertaken to improve knowledge about families and the social issues which affect them. This document is a joint effort between the Social Policy Directorate and the Australian Bureau of Statistics. In an informative and accessible manner, it presents an extensive range of up-to-date statistical data on families and the issues which affect them.

This document will be a valuable resource for government, the private sector and the community during International Year of the Family. At a time when families are coping with unprecedented rates of social change, it is important that realities, not myths, inform debate and decision making processes.

Jane Schwager  
Executive Director  
Social Policy Directorate

May 1994



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# Introduction

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This publication presents a range of illustrative data on NSW families: their history and diversity; income and expenditure; housing; lifestyle; and issues such as family caring, employment and education.

## What is a family?<sup>1</sup>

Families can be defined in many different ways. Ultimately, "family" is not so much a matter of form or type, it is a matter of sharing emotional closeness, mutual support, caring, and creating and passing on values and traditions to the next generations.

For statistical purposes, the Australian Bureau of Statistics defines a family as 'two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. Separate families are identified for each married or de facto couple and for each one-parent family in the household'. This definition is used in ABS surveys and the Census of Population and Housing which is held every five years. For this reason, it is also the definition used throughout this publication.

Nevertheless, it is important to bear in mind that individuals very often see their families as extending across households. For example, most people consider their parents or their children to be members of their family irrespective of where they live. There are often significant flows of financial, practical and emotional support between households within the same family.

While families today may be different in many ways from previous generations, this does not mean that families are in decline. Some of the recent changes in families (later marriage and a higher proportion who never marry) represent a return to patterns which applied a century ago. Thus we constantly redefine families and their place in our lives, but families remain important to almost all of us.

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<sup>1</sup> NSW Information Kit: International Year of the Family, Social Policy Directorate  
McDonald P., *Family Trends and Structures in Australia*, Australian Institute of Family Studies, 1993



# **1. Families in NSW**

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Changing social values and economic conditions have had a significant impact on Australian families over the last decade. However, despite changes in the size and composition of many families, most people continue to live in family households, and by far the most common family type is the couple family.

This section looks at the number and composition of families in NSW using data from the 1992 Family Survey. Although changes in ABS definitions of family type make detailed time comparisons difficult, broad comparisons are made with data from the previous family survey conducted in 1982.

For statistical purposes, a family is defined as two or more people living together in the same household and who are related by blood, marriage (including de facto marriage), adoption or fostering. Dependent children refers to children aged under 15 years or aged 15–24 years and studying full-time. Full definitions for the terms used in this chapter can be found in the glossary.

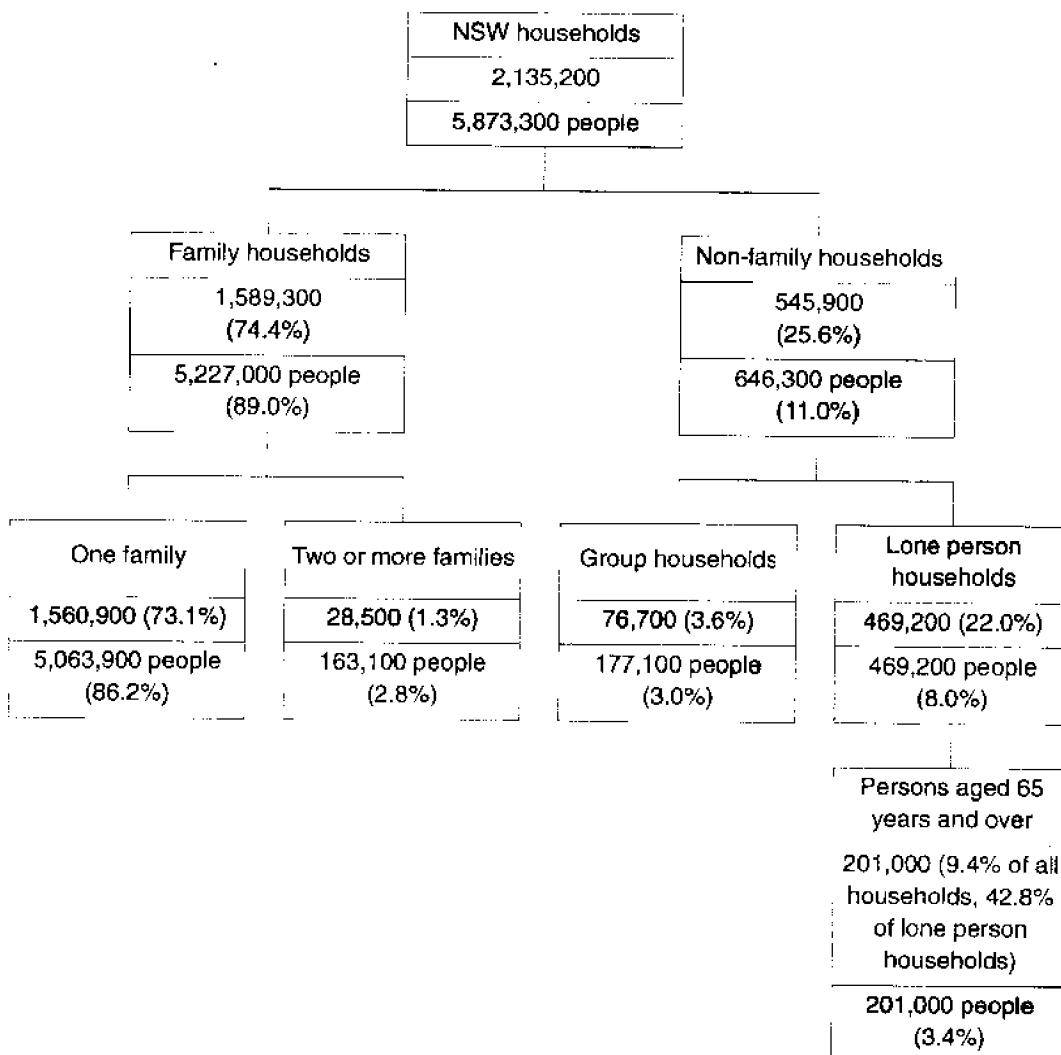
## Households

The 1992 Family Survey revealed a diverse range of households in NSW. A household is broadly defined by the ABS as a group of people who usually reside and eat together. Consequently, households may be further defined as 'family' households or 'non-family' households.

- There were 2,135,200 NSW households in 1992 (compared with 1,860,400 in 1982). Of these, 74% were family households.
- Of the non-family households, 86% consisted of people living alone and 14% were group households.

A significant number of people aged 65 years and over (201,000) were living alone in 1992, accounting for almost 10% of NSW households. The trend toward greater numbers of older people living alone can be expected to continue as the population ages.

**Chart 1.1 Households, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Family Survey

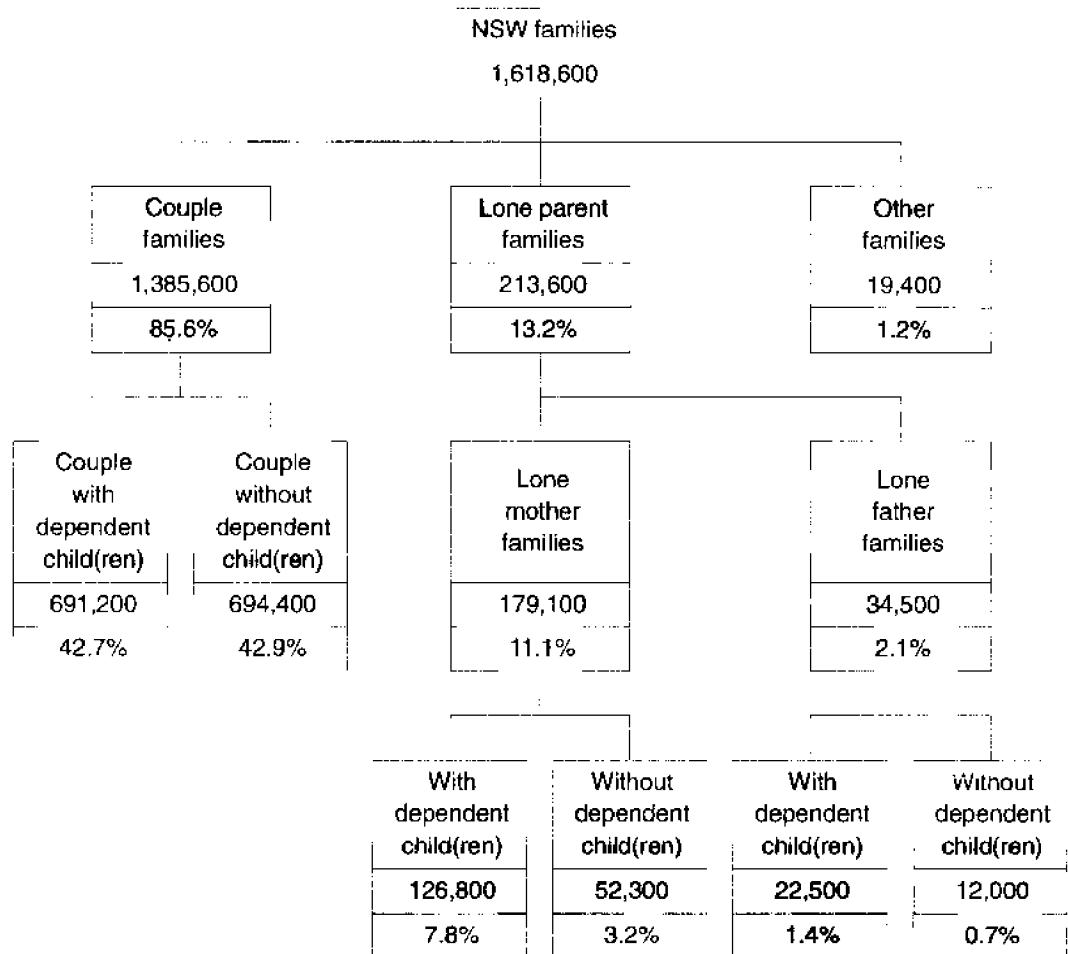
## Families

### All families

The number of families in NSW increased from 1.4 million in 1982 to 1.6 million in 1992. Of all NSW families in 1992:

- 86% were couple families;
- 13% were lone parent families; and
- 1% were 'other' families of related individuals.

**Chart 1.2 Families, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Family Survey

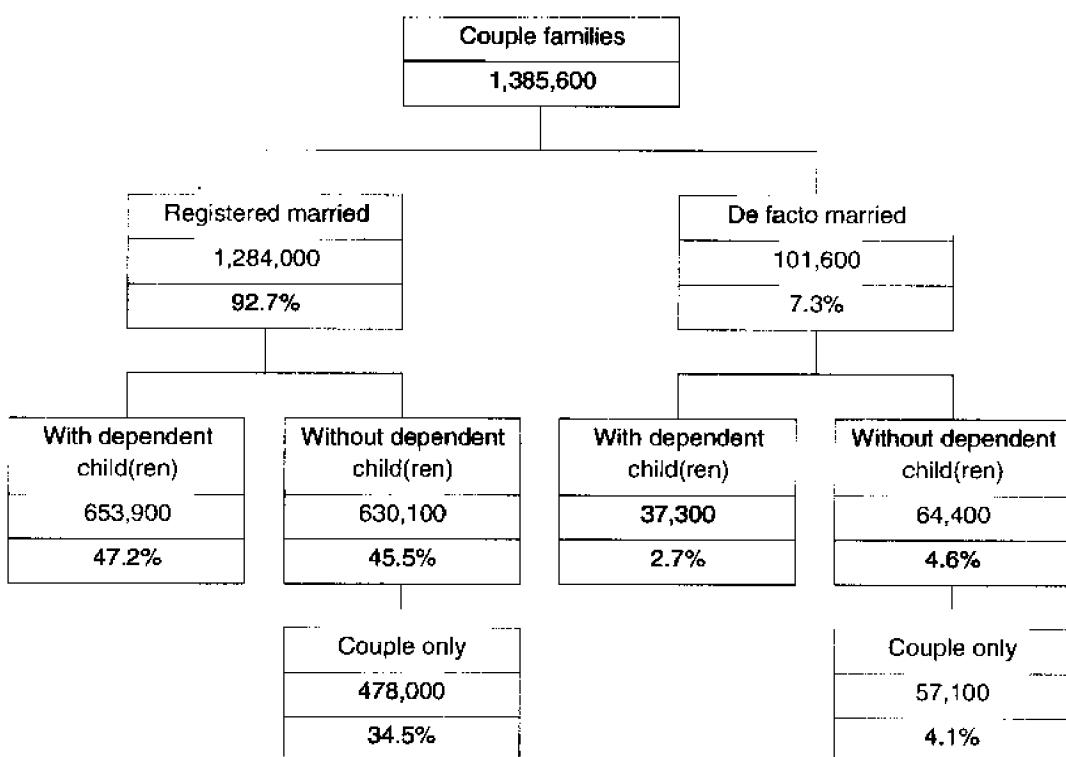
## Couple families

There were 691,200 couple families with dependent children in NSW in 1992 representing 43% of all NSW families. This is a slight decrease since 1982, when such families made up 45% of all NSW families. However, couple families without dependants have remained around 43% of all NSW families since 1982.

The 'traditional' family of two registered married parents and two dependent children made up only 19% of all couple families and 17% of all families, a slight decrease compared with 1982 (21% and 18% respectively).

Registered married couples accounted for 93% of all couples in 1992, of which about half (51%) had dependent children. By contrast, only 7% of couple families were de facto couples and of these only 37% had dependent children.

**Chart 1.3 Couple families, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Family Survey

## Lone parent families

Lone parent families accounted for 13% of all families in 1992. Lone parent families with dependent children represented 9% of all NSW families (compared with 7% in 1982), and some 84% of lone parents were female.

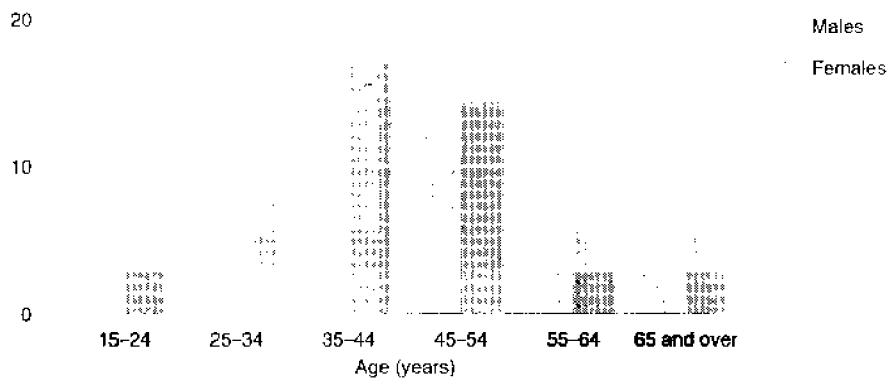
In general, the age distribution of lone parents differed between males and females, lone fathers being older than lone mothers. Over half (55%) of lone fathers were aged 45 years and over compared to 37% of lone mothers.

## Families in NSW



**Graph 1.1 Age of lone parents, NSW, 1992**

Per cent  
30



Source: 1992 Family Survey

## NSW Families: A Profile

### **Step and blended families**

Family blending occurs where a child or children from a previous relationship of either partner of a couple (i.e. step children) are residing in a couple family.

There were 66,400 families which contained step children in NSW in 1992. Of these:

- 31,300 were blended families, containing both a step child and a natural, adopted or foster child; and
- 35,100 families contained a step child but not a natural, adopted or foster child.

**Table 1.1 Step and blended families: Family blending by couple status, NSW, 1992**

Family blending	Couple with dependent child(ren)		Couple with non-dependent child(ren) only		Total	
	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion
	'000	per cent	'000	per cent	'000	per cent
Blended	31.3	100.0	*	*	31.3	100.0
Step	24.2	69.0	*10.9	*31.0	35.1	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>83.6</b>	<b>*10.9</b>	<b>*16.4</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

### **Family size**

In 1992, just over 40% of families consisted of two people, while families of five or more people accounted for only 15% of all families. Over 80% of two person families were couples, while 17% were lone parents with one child.

**Table 1.2 Family size, NSW, 1992**

Family type	Number of people present					
	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six or more	Total
—'000—						
Couple families—						
With dependants	..	167.0	296.1	159.1	68.9	691.2
Without dependants	535.1	116.6	35.5	*6.6	**0.6	694.4
Lone parent families—						
With dependants	60.2	54.8	25.6	*7.7	**1.0	149.3
Without dependants	52.3	*9.6	**2.5	..	..	64.3
Other families	17.0	**2.4	..	..	..	19.4
<b>Total families</b>	<b>664.5</b>	<b>350.4</b>	<b>359.6</b>	<b>173.5</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>1,618.6</b>

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

## Dependent children

There were 1,731,900 dependent children in NSW in 1992, of whom 85% were in couple families and 15% were in lone parent families.

- Three-quarters of all families with dependent children had only one or two dependent children.
- Over half (58%) of lone parent families with dependent children had only one dependent child, compared with one-third of couple families with dependent children.

**Table 1.3 Number of dependent children (a), NSW, 1992**

<i>Family type</i>	<i>Number of dependent children</i>				<i>Total</i>
	<i>One</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three</i>	<i>Four or more</i>	
—'000—					
Number of families—					
Couple families	227.0	280.1	131.7	52.4	691.2
Registered married couples	209.8	268.1	125.7	50.3	653.9
De facto couples	17.2	12.0	*6.0	**2.0	37.3
Lone parent families	87.1	39.7	14.9	*7.7	149.3
<b>Total families</b>	<b>314.1</b>	<b>319.7</b>	<b>146.6</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>840.5</b>
Number of dependent children—					
Couple families	286.7	570.7	389.4	220.7	1,467.5
Lone parent families	104.8	81.8	45.1	32.6	264.4
<b>Total number of dependent children</b>	<b>391.5</b>	<b>652.5</b>	<b>434.5</b>	<b>253.4</b>	<b>1,731.9</b>

(a) The number of dependent children or the number of children at home is not always equal to the number of children in the family since some children may no longer be dependent or living at home.

Source: 1992 Family Survey

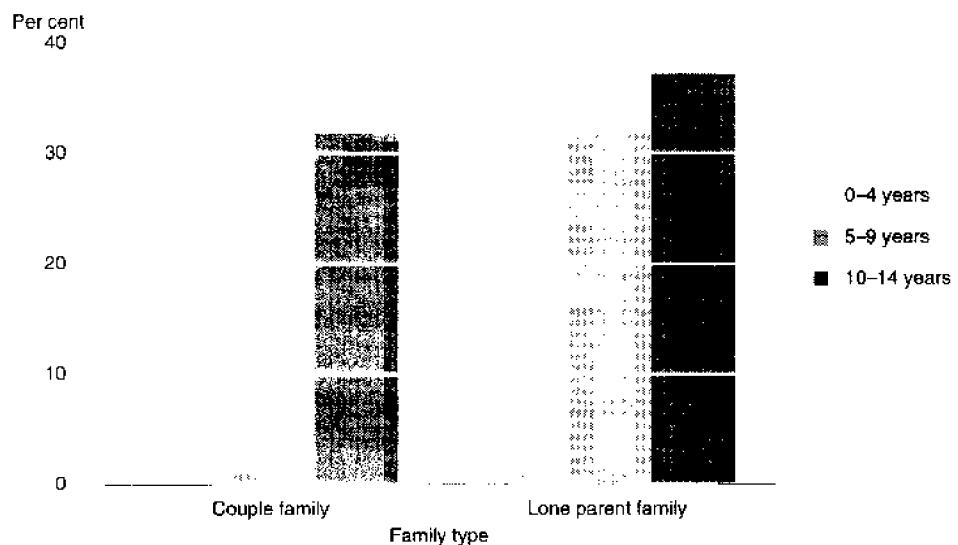
## Children aged 0–14 years

In 1992, 1,099,400 children, or 85% of children in NSW aged 0–14 years, lived in couple families. Of these, 96% were the couple's natural, adopted or foster child and 4% were step children.

There were 188,200 children aged 0–14 years living in lone parent families. The following graph shows that children of lone parents tended to be older than children in couple families.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 1.2 Children aged 0–14 years, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Family Survey

*Additional information on family/household composition may be found in Tables A1.1 to A1.7 in the Appendix.*



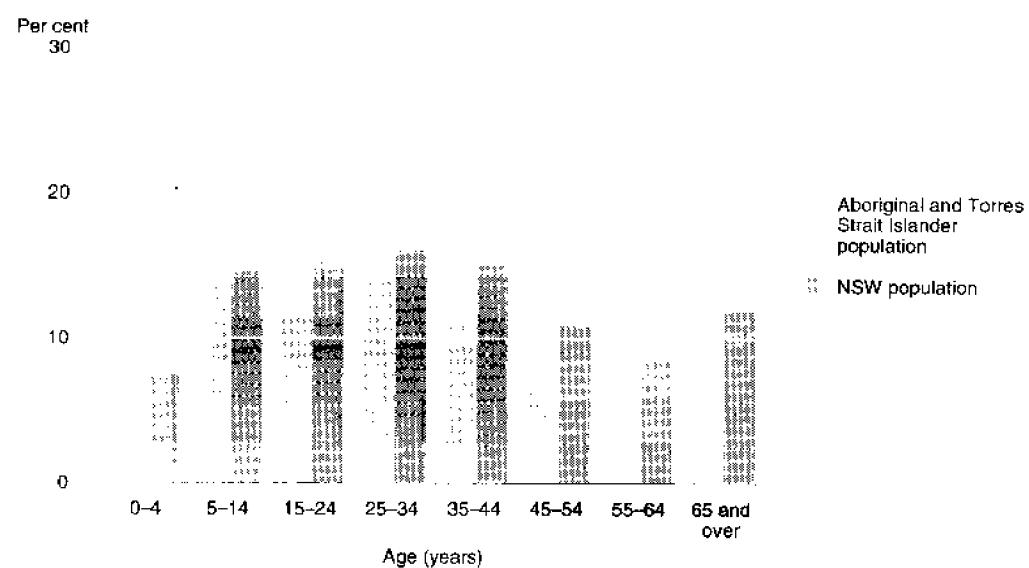
## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families

### The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in NSW

At the 1991 Census of Population and Housing, 70,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were counted in NSW, representing 1.2% of the total NSW population.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population has a much younger profile than the overall population. About 40% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were aged under 15 years compared to 22% of the population overall. In older age groups, there were very small proportions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with only 12% being aged 45 years and over, compared to 32% of the total population (*see Appendix Table A1.8*).

**Graph 1.3 NSW population: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, 1991**



Source: 1991 Census Aboriginal Community Profile and 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1)

### Family type

There were 17,934 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in NSW in 1991, which is about 1% of all NSW families. For statistical purposes, families are considered to be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander if the family reference person or their spouse (see Glossary for definition) is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Because of their relatively younger age structure, nearly three-quarters of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families had dependent children, compared to just over half of other NSW families. Only 22% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families were couples without dependent children, compared with over 40% of other NSW families.

Nearly 30% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families were one parent families compared with 13% of other NSW families. Almost 23% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families were lone mother families with dependent child(ren) compared with 7% of other NSW families.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table 1.4 Family type, NSW, 1991**

Family type	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family (a)		Other NSW family		Total	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
<b>Couple families—</b>						
With dependent child(ren)	8,471	47.2	629,378	43.6	637,849	43.7
Without dependent child(ren)	3,886	21.7	598,017	41.4	601,903	41.2
<i>Total couple families</i>	<b>12,357</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>1,227,395</b>	<b>85.1</b>	<b>1,239,752</b>	<b>84.9</b>
<b>Lone parent families—</b>						
Male parent—						
With dependent child(ren)	425	2.4	18,200	1.3	18,625	1.3
Without dependent child(ren)	132	0.7	13,867	1.0	13,999	1.0
Female parent—						
With dependent child(ren)	4,094	22.8	104,240	7.2	108,334	7.4
Without dependent child(ren)	563	3.1	50,036	3.5	50,599	3.5
<i>Total lone parent families</i>	<b>5,214</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>186,343</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>191,557</b>	<b>13.1</b>
Other families	363	2.0	29,028	2.0	29,391	2.0
<b>Total families</b>	<b>17,934</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,442,766</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,460,700</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) An Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander family is one in which at least one of the family reference person or spouse is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Source: 1991 Census of Population and Housing

### Labour force status

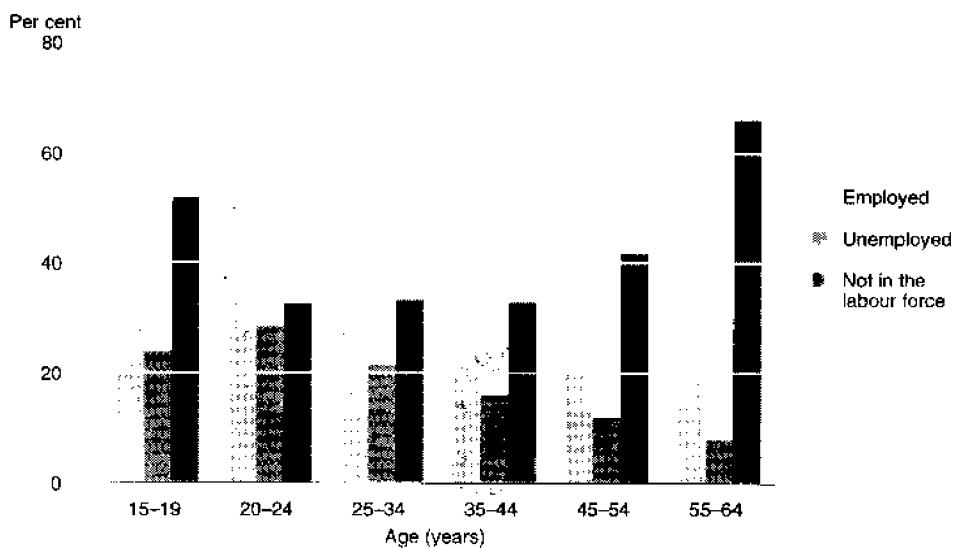
In common with other population groups, the health, lifestyle and general well-being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander families are frequently dependent on whether the parents are employed. Many families are affected by the employment and unemployment trends outlined below.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population has comparatively high levels of unemployment. In NSW in 1991 only 35% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders aged over 15 years were employed, compared with 56% of the total population. Of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, 20% were unemployed and 42% were not in the labour force.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth also face higher than average levels of unemployment. The following graph shows that, while 52% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders aged 15–19 were not in the labour force, over half of those who were in the labour force were unemployed. Of those aged 20–24 years, 44% of those in the labour force were unemployed (see Appendix Table A1.9).

## Families in NSW

**Graph 1.4 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: Labour force status, NSW, 1991**



Source: 1991 Census Aboriginal Community Profile (2722.1)

## Migrant families

Australia today is made up of people from many different cultural backgrounds as a result of the influx of immigrants during the post-war years. Following changes to government policy which made Australia's entrance requirements non-discriminatory, the 1970s saw a considerable increase in the migration of people from Asian countries. A further change in policy on the intake of refugees in the second half of the 1970s resulted in a large increase in Indo-Chinese immigration. The majority of these were Vietnamese-born.

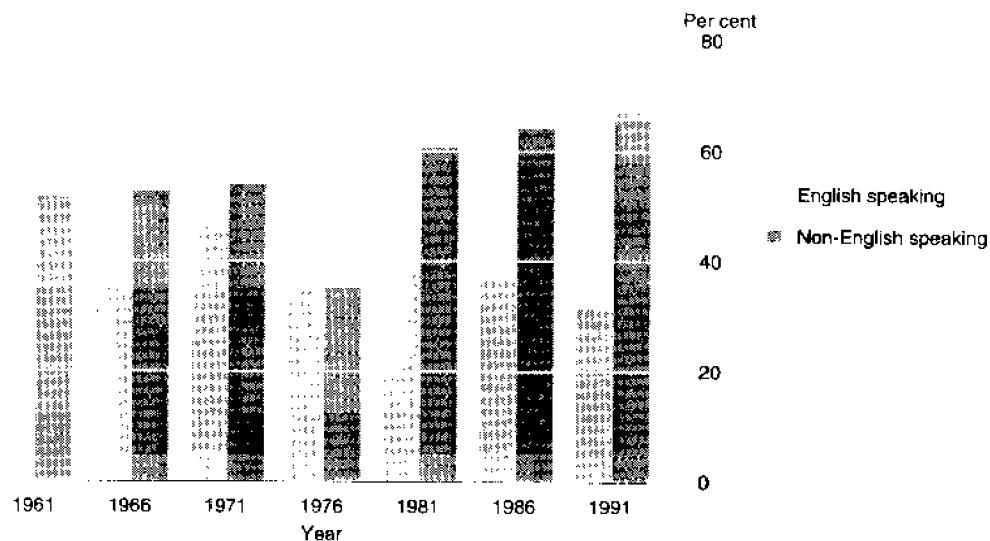
The influx of migrants, both from English and non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB), has brought with it a diversity of family types and values. However, despite recent policies of family reunion, not all families of non-English speaking backgrounds are 'intact' or 'extended'. Early waves of migrants, and many refugees, came alone and often lived without close family support. Later waves (such as Italians and Greeks) were more likely to sponsor relatives and friends from their own origins. More recent Asian and South American refugees have little family support in Australia and have had to find substitutes for the absence of extended family support.<sup>1</sup>

The following graph shows that over the last 30 years the proportion of overseas born people from non-English speaking countries has increased substantially to almost 70% of all overseas born people in NSW.

<sup>1</sup> Families in the 1990s: A Challenge for Future Policy Approaches. Background paper prepared by Dr Don Edgar and staff of the Australian Institute of Family Studies for the Social Policy Directorate.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 1.5 Overseas born: Proportion from English and non-English speaking countries, NSW**



*Source: Census of Population and Housing*



## Families in NSW

Data from the 1991 Census of Population and Housing show that nearly one-quarter (23%) of the population in NSW were born overseas. About 8% of the population, or 35% of overseas born people, were born in the main English-speaking countries of the United Kingdom (23%), Ireland (1%), New Zealand (7%), Canada (1%), South Africa (1%) and the USA (1%).

The main countries of birth for people born in non-English speaking countries were Italy (accounting for 5% of the overseas born), the former Yugoslavia (5%), Lebanon (4%), Vietnam (4%), China (3%), Greece (3%) and the Philippines (3%).

The cultural diversity brought to Australia by migrants is not limited to the overseas-born population but extends into, and often beyond, the next generation. As a consequence, increasing numbers of families in NSW have cultural ties to another country. In 1991 almost one-quarter of all people born in Australia had at least one parent born overseas and 11% had both parents born overseas. Among the Australian born people who had one overseas born parent and one Australian born parent, over 60% had an Australian born mother and an overseas born father.

**Table 1.5 Australian born people: Birthplace of parents, NSW, 1991**

Mother	Father					Total overseas (c)	
	Born overseas						
	Born in Australia	Main English speaking country (a)	Other country (b)	Total born overseas	Total overseas (c)		
Born in Australia	3,192,662	233,898	120,071	353,969	3,577,560		
Born overseas—							
Main English speaking country (a)	151,390	119,854	17,120	136,974	290,907		
Other country (b)	56,993	12,603	318,893	331,496	390,479		
Total	208,383	132,457	336,013	468,470	681,386		
<b>Total (c)</b>	<b>3,405,363</b>	<b>367,152</b>	<b>457,188</b>	<b>824,340</b>	<b>4,287,032</b>		

(a) Comprises England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, USA and New Zealand.

(b) Includes inadequately described, 'at sea' and 'not elsewhere classified'. (c) Includes 'not stated'.

Source: 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1)



## **2. Family history**

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Families change over time for a variety of reasons: individuals may get married or commence de facto relationships; people have children, and later on those children leave home; relationships may end, or remain intact for the lifetimes of those involved; and, of course, ageing and dying all have an effect.

All of these processes have been subject to substantial changes over the past 30 years, leading to a number of variations in family patterns: people now marry at a much older age and a much higher proportion do not marry at all; births occur at later ages, and there are fewer of them; divorce rates have risen, as too have the proportions of sole parent families, de facto relationships and ex-nuptial births<sup>1</sup>.

It is important to be aware, however, that these trends are not new occurrences. According to research undertaken by the Australian Institute of Family Studies, sole parent families were equally common 100 years ago as they are today. Similarly, taking account of changes in death rates and separations, today's married couples are more likely to be still living with their spouse after 30 years than couples were 100 years ago. Even the number of de facto relationships is not unprecedented. Helen Glezer of the Institute points out that, historically, 'common law' marriages were the norm and formal marriages were the preserve of the propertied classes.<sup>2</sup>

In NSW in 1992 over 60% of all NSW people aged 15 years and over were in some kind of marital relationship, of which only 7% were in a de facto or social marriage. About 8% were either separated or divorced, 6% were widowed and about one-quarter had never been married or lived in a de facto relationship. Over two-thirds of females and about 60% of males in de facto relationships were aged 15–34 years (see *Appendix Table A2.1*).

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1 McDonald P., *Family Trends and Structure in Australia*, Australian Institute of Family Studies, 1993

2 Glezer H., *Pathways to Family Formation*, *Family Matters* No. 34 May 1993

## Marriages and divorces

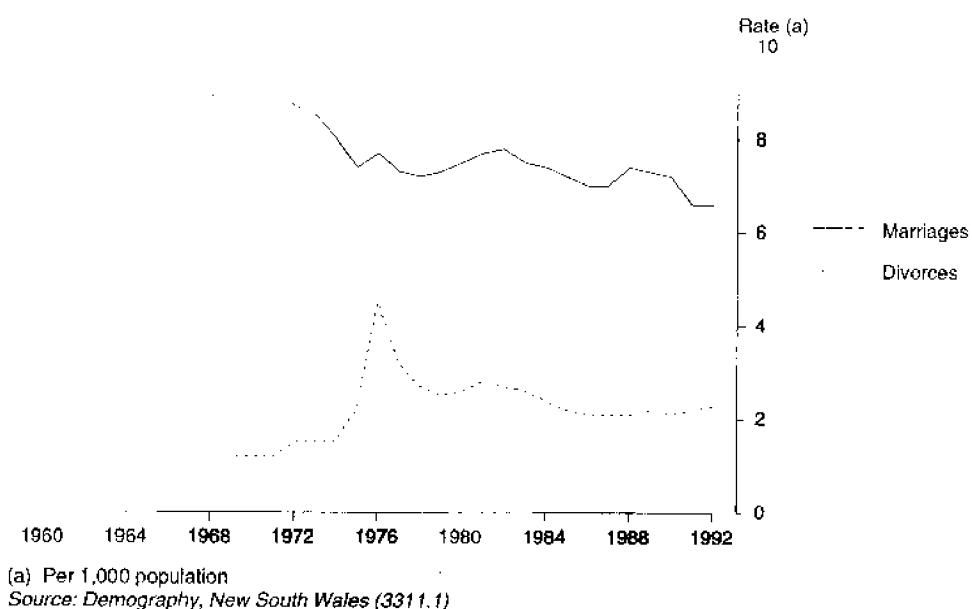
### Marriage and divorce rates

The crude marriage rate in NSW has decreased over the past twenty years from a peak of 9.4 marriages per 1,000 of the total population in 1970 to 6.6 marriages per 1,000 in 1992. Nevertheless, according to recent research from the Australian Institute of Family Studies, only 13% of young adults are uncertain about marriage or expect not to marry at all.<sup>3</sup>

The graph below illustrates that the rise in modern divorce rates began in the latter half of the 1960s and reached a peak in 1976, which was the first year of operation of the *Family Law Act 1975*. In this year, a large number of people who had been separated for some time took advantage of the 'no fault' provisions of the new Act, which enabled many people to divorce sooner than they would have done under the previous law. Although the divorce rate subsequently levelled off, a secondary peak occurred around 1981–82, perhaps reflecting the economic recession of the early 1980s. Evidence of a second rise around 1991 (the onset of the most recent recession) seems to support such a link.

There were 13,949 divorces granted in NSW in 1992. This represents a slight increase over the previous year to 2.3 divorces per 1,000 of the population.

**Graph 2.1 Crude marriage and divorce rates, NSW**



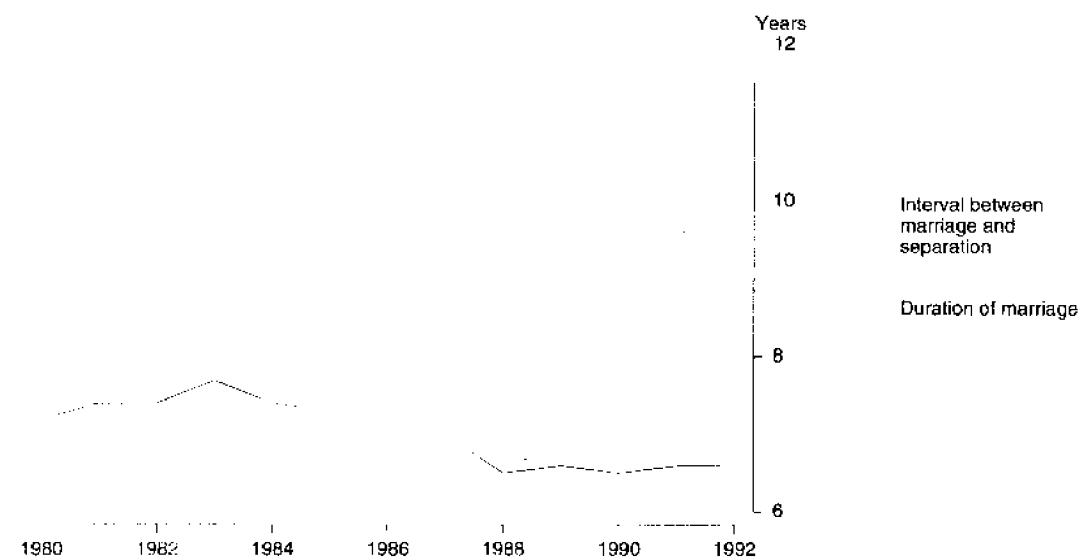
### Duration of marriage

The interval between marriage, separation and divorce has narrowed over the last decade. The median interval between marriage and separation in 1992 was 6.6 years, compared to 7.7 years in 1983. The median interval between marriage and divorce was 9.7 years in 1992 compared to 10.4 years in 1983.

<sup>3</sup> *Families in the 1990's: A Challenge for Future Policy Approaches.* Background paper prepared by Dr Don Edgar and staff of the Australian Institute of Family Studies for the Social Policy Directorate, February 1993

## Family history

**Graph 2.2 Median interval between marriage and separation and median duration of marriage, NSW**



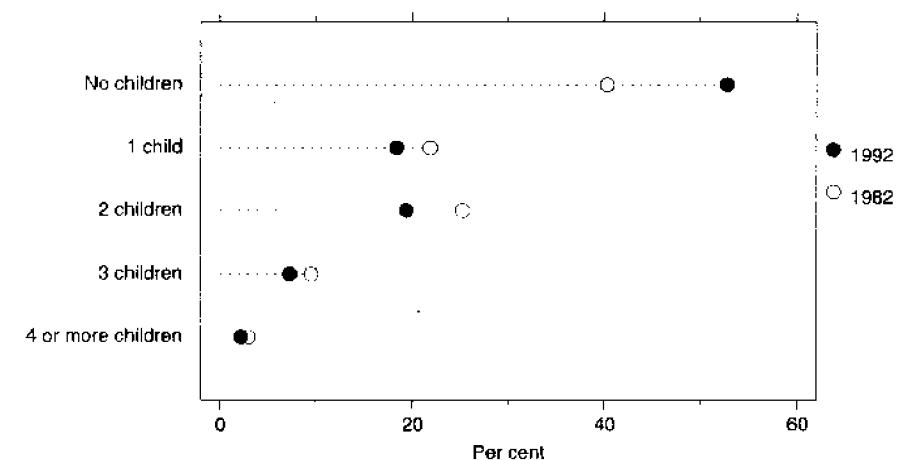
Source: Demography, New South Wales (3311.1)

## Divorces involving children

The number of divorces involving children under 18 years of age has decreased over the last decade. Divorces involving at least one child under the age of 18 dropped below 50% for the first time in 1991, and declined further to 47% in 1992, down from 60% in 1982.

By contrast, divorces where there were no children involved increased from 40% in 1982 to 53% in 1992. Altogether, 12,283 children were involved in divorces granted in 1992.

**Graph 2.3 Number of children under 18 years involved in divorces, NSW, 1982 and 1992**

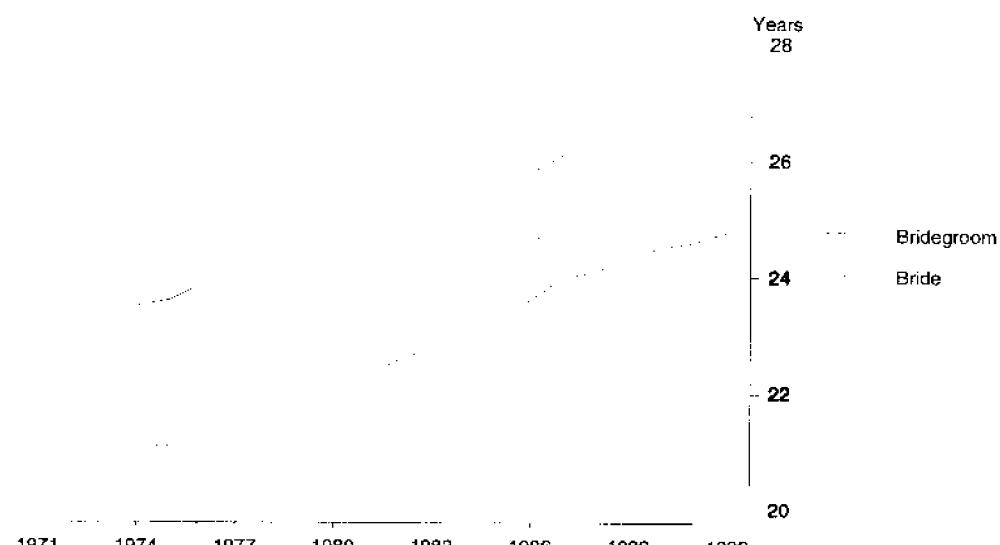


Source: Demography, New South Wales (3311.1)

## Age at first marriage

The age at first marriage in NSW continues to increase steadily. In 1992, the median ages at first marriage of brides and bridegrooms were 24.8 years and 27.0 years respectively. By comparison, the median age of all brides was 26.3 years and grooms, 28.7 years. The lowest median ages at first marriage, 21.1 years and 23.5 years respectively, were recorded in the early 1970s.

**Graph 2.4 Median age at first marriage, NSW**



Source: Demography, New South Wales (3311.1)

## The social marriage

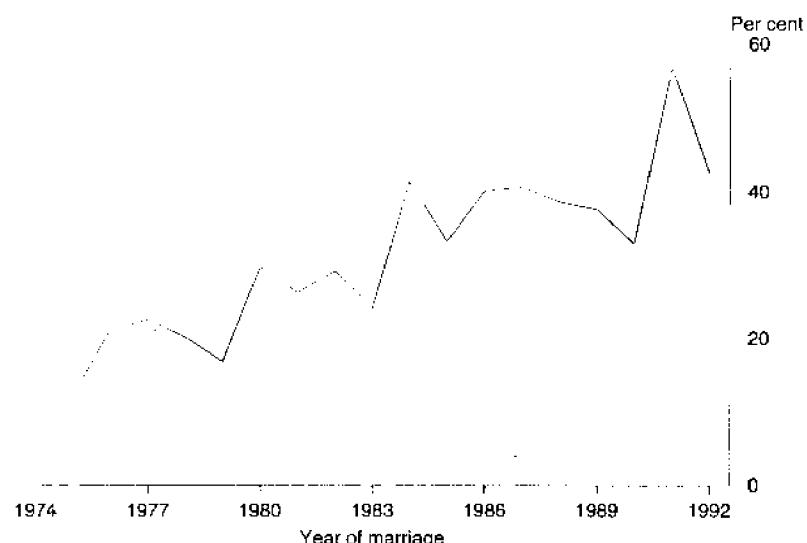
The increase in de facto relationships has been a growing phenomenon in Western societies for more than two decades. This partly explains the declining number of people in Australia who are marrying in the 20–29 years age group, a trend which began in the 1970s.<sup>4</sup>

The following graph shows that in NSW the proportion of people who had lived together prior to their current marriage (whether it was their most recent marriage or only marriage), has increased from 12% in 1975 to almost 60% in 1991. The largest increases occurred in the years 1976, 1980, 1984 and 1991. However, the proportion of marriages preceded by a period of cohabitation decreased in 1992 to just over 40%.

4 Glezer H., Cohabitation, *Family Matters* No. 30, December 1991

## Family history

**Graph 2.5 Proportion of most recent (or only) marriages preceded by a period of cohabitation, NSW, 1975 to 1992 (a)**



(a) Data relate only to marriages from 1975 onwards. People in a second or subsequent marriage were asked about their current marriage only. Previously married people in a de facto relationship were not asked any questions about periods of pre-marriage cohabitation.

Source: 1992 Family Survey

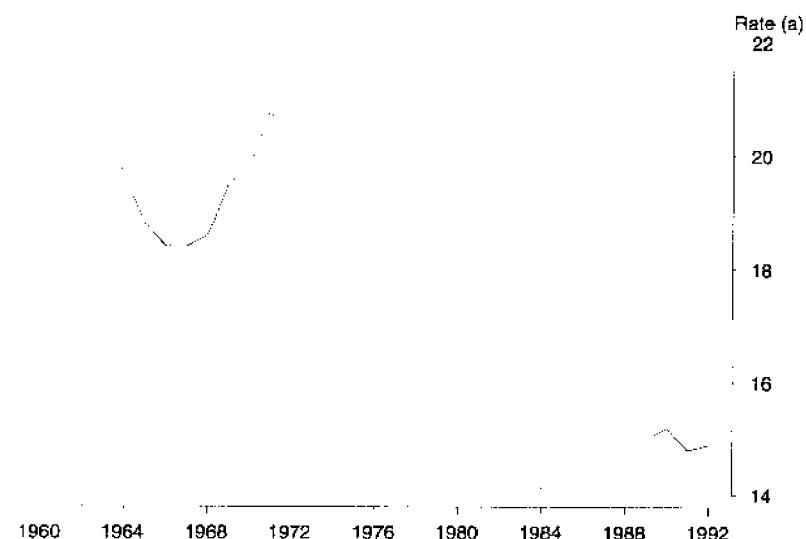
## Births

The crude birth rate refers to the number of live births which occurred during the calendar year per 1,000 of the estimated mean resident population. In NSW, the crude birth rate has decreased over the last 30 years from 20.7 per 1,000 of the population in 1963 to 14.9 per 1,000 of the population in 1992. The birth rate peaked at 20.8 per 1,000 in 1971, and then entered a sharp decline which levelled off in the 1980s and 1990s.

In 1992 there were 88,892 live births to mothers who are usually resident in NSW. The sex ratio was 106 males born for every 100 females.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 2.6 Crude birth rate, NSW**



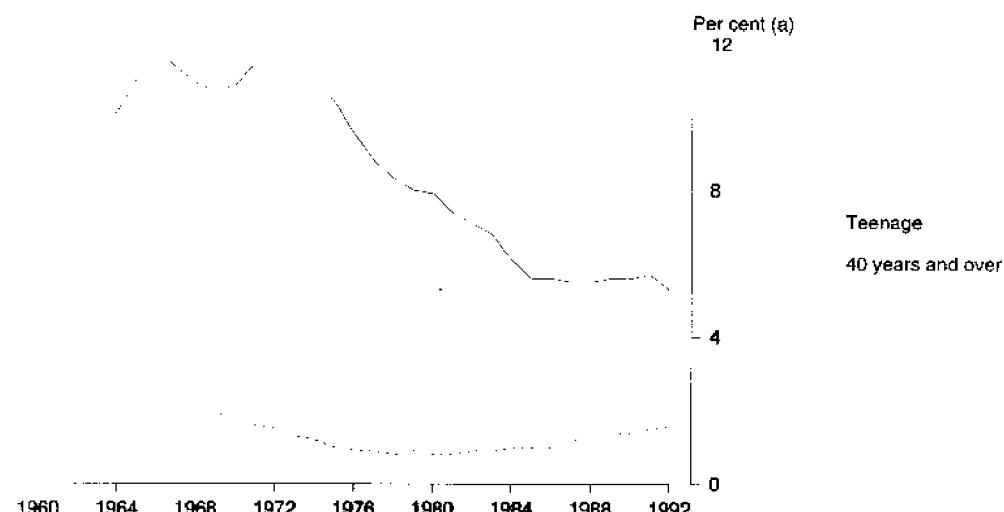
(a) Per 1,000 population

Source: Demography, New South Wales (3311.1)

The birth rate for teenage mothers (those aged 15–19 years) has declined significantly over the last 30 years. The peak birth rate of 58.0 births per 1,000 population occurred in 1971 and subsequently declined sharply. The birth rate in 1992 was 22.8 per 1,000 population, representing 4,879 births.

As the graph demonstrates, births to teenage mothers as a proportion of all births have also declined over the last 30 years, reaching a peak of 11.9 in 1972 and dropping away sharply to 5.3 in 1992. By contrast, births to mothers aged 40 years and over have almost doubled since 1978 to 1.6% of total births, after a long-term decreasing trend.

**Graph 2.7 Births to teenage mothers and mothers aged 40 years and over, NSW**



(a) Proportion of total births.

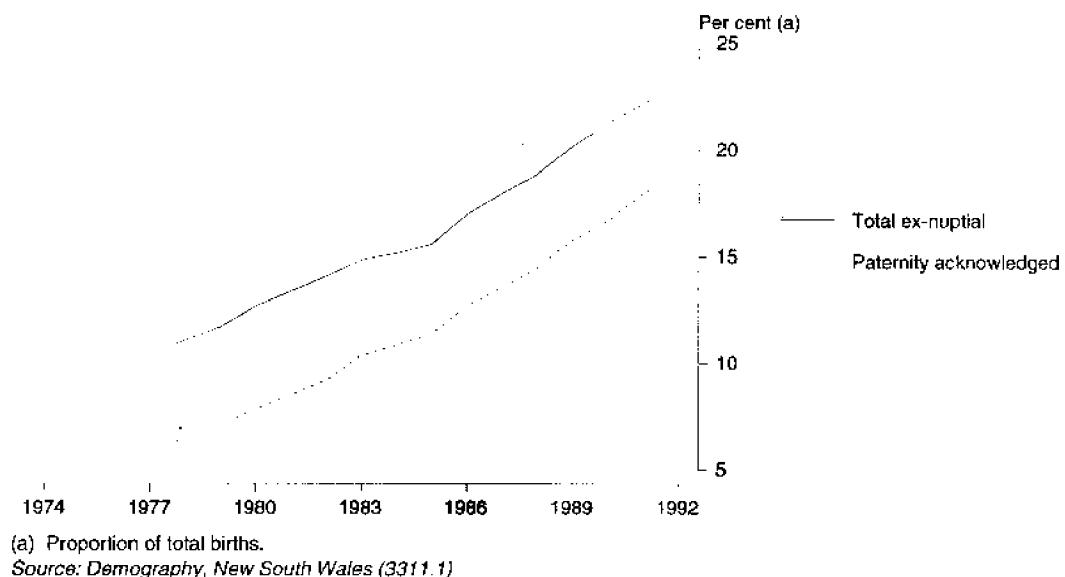
Source: Demography, New South Wales (3311.1)

## Family history

There were 21,412 births registered in 1992 to unmarried mothers. The proportion of ex-nuptial births to total births increased from 10.2% in 1976 to 23% in 1992. Some 45% of ex-nuptial births were to women aged over 24 years, 35% were to women aged 20–24 years, and 20% were to teenage mothers.

The proportion of ex-nuptial births where the father is acknowledged has continued to increase steadily from 56% in 1976 to 82% in 1992.

**Graph 2.8 Ex-nuptial births, NSW**





## **3. Education**

Involvement in education affects both individuals and families. There are restrictions imposed on families by school terms and school holidays; there is the cost of education and the need to support dependants who are studying. There is also the time required for study.

In NSW, it is compulsory for children between the ages of 6 and 15 years to attend primary or secondary school. Most start school at 5 years of age and stay to complete secondary school at 17 or 18 years of age.

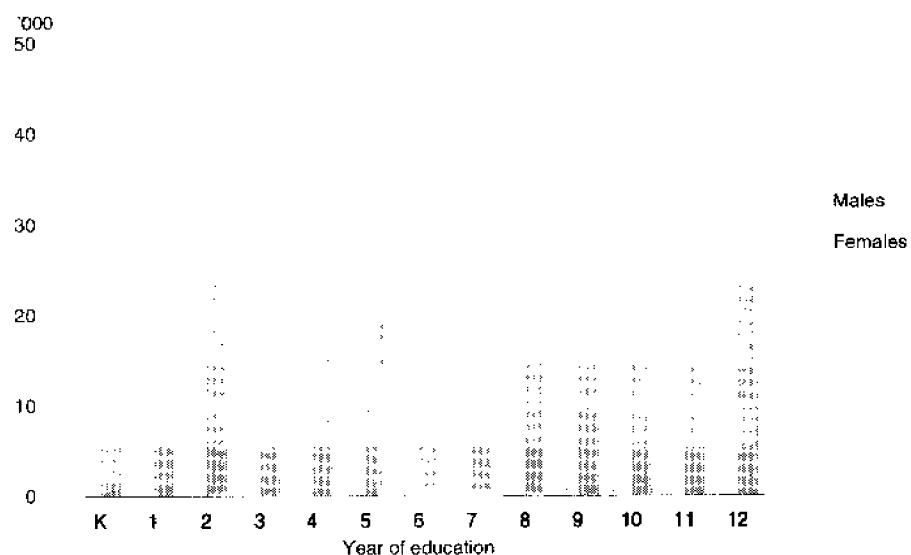
Many people also undertake post-school or tertiary education with the majority being young people between 15 and 24. Many attend full-time and are dependent on their families for direct or indirect support, e.g. accommodation at home. Others work while studying part-time.

### **School education**

There were just over a million children at school in NSW in 1993. Boys slightly outnumbered girls in each year from Kindergarten to Year 10 and in total. However, girls were in the majority in Years 11 and 12.

Just over 70% of children were attending government schools and just under 30% were at non-government schools. About three-quarters of the children in the non-government school sector attended Catholic schools (see *Appendix Table A3.1*).

**Graph 3.1 Schools: Full-time students, NSW, 1993**



Source: Schools, Australia, 1993, Preliminary (4220.0)

## **Apparent retention rates**

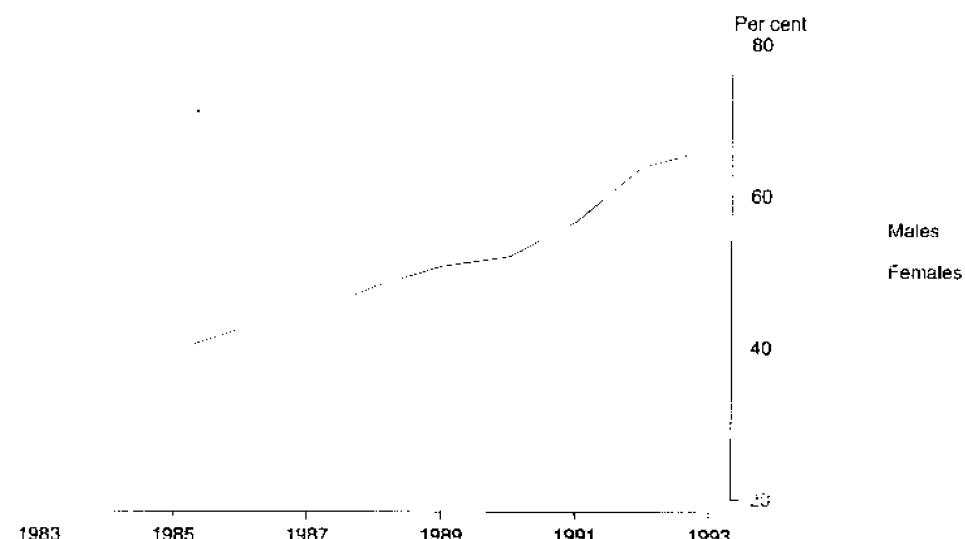
In recent years, the number of children remaining at school to complete their full secondary education has been increasing. Indeed, the proportion of Year 7 students remaining at school to the end of Year 12 (the apparent retention rate) has almost doubled over the last ten years and by 1993 had reached 71% (*see Appendix Table A3.2*).

Female retention rates have been higher than those for males (75% compared to 66% in 1993) and the gap between the two has widened over the last decade.

The increase in retention rates in the last few years has also coincided with an increase in the levels of unemployment. By staying at school to the end of Year 12 students aim to improve their prospects of employment and possibly qualify for higher education.

The proportion of Year 7 students remaining to Year 10 has also continued to increase and in 1993 stood at 97%.

**Graph 3.2 Apparent retention rates to Year 12, NSW**



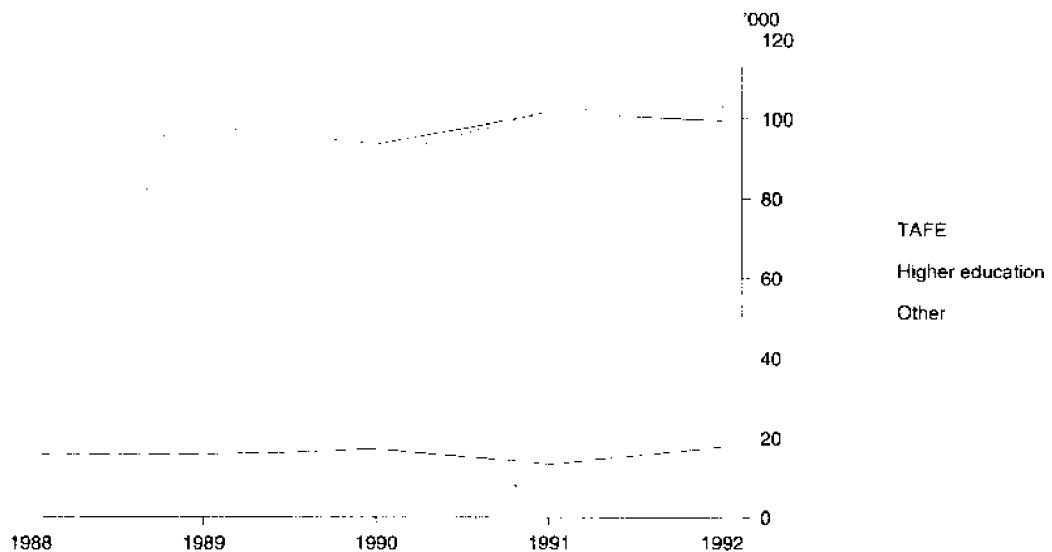
*Source: National Schools Statistics Collection*

## **Young people in tertiary education**

An estimated 220,000 young people aged 15–24 years were attending a tertiary education institution in NSW in September 1992. This was an increase of almost 25% since 1988 (*see Appendix Table A3.3*). The proportion of young people participating in tertiary education increased from 20% to 25% over this period.

## Education

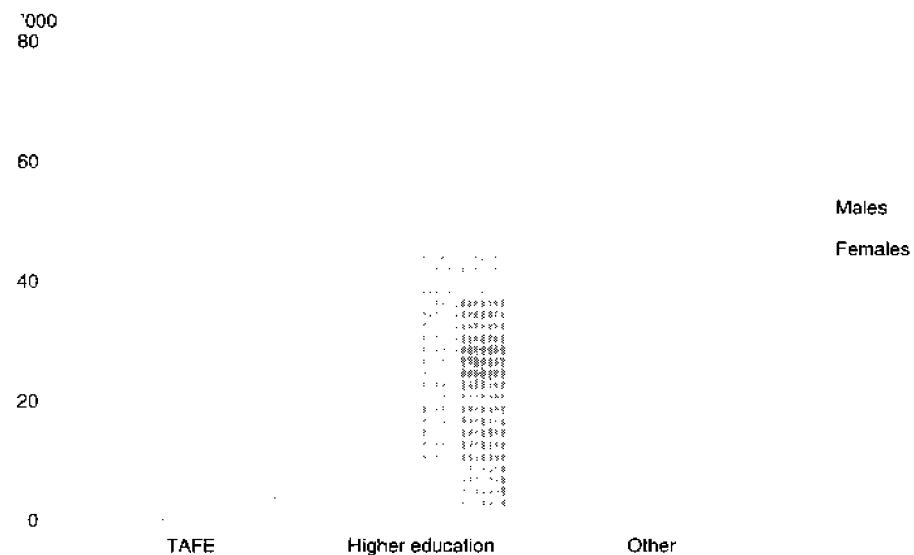
**Graph 3.3 Tertiary institutions: Students aged 15 to 24 years, NSW**



Source: Survey of Participation in Education

The number of young people attending higher education institutions has now overtaken the number at TAFE—both had about 100,000 students in 1992. Women comprised a majority (54%) of the students in higher education institutions but lagged well behind at TAFE (35%). Overall, women constituted 45% of total students in tertiary institutions (see Appendix Table A3.3).

**Graph 3.4 Tertiary institutions: Students aged 15 to 24 years, NSW, September 1992**



Source: Survey of Participation in Education

The pattern of attendance was quite different between the two main tertiary sectors. Whilst a very high proportion (84%) of higher education students attended full-time, the majority (69%) of TAFE students attended part-time, probably reflecting the vocational nature of their courses.

## Barriers to education participation

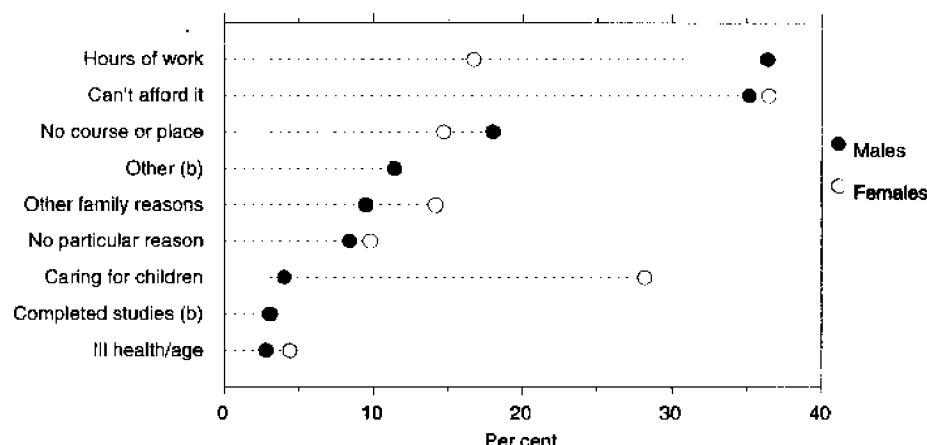
Many people would like to enrol to study at an educational institution but do not do so for various reasons. Others, who are currently studying part-time at such an institution, would like to enrol full-time. In NSW in 1992, over 900,000 people over 15 years of age (excluding school children) reported that they wanted to study but faced various barriers.

The most common reason given by women for not studying over the last six months was not being able to afford it—either they couldn't afford to stop working or couldn't afford the costs of education. Over one-third (36%) of women were affected in this way. The next most common reason, given by 28% of women, was caring for children.

By way of contrast, only 4% of men gave caring for children as a reason for not studying. The most common barriers to education for men were not being able to afford to study and being barred by business or work hours (both affecting over one-third of males).

In all, family responsibilities were a barrier to education for 42% of women but only 13% of men.

**Graph 3.5 Reasons for not studying in the last 6 months (a), NSW, 1992**



(a) More than one reason could be given. (b) Male and female proportions were (almost) identical.  
Source: 1992 Family survey

## **4. Employment**

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The labour market has changed significantly over the past decade. The increasing number of women participating in the labour force, the rise in part-time and casual employment, and, of course, higher levels and longer durations of unemployment, are some of the key trends to have a dramatic impact on Australian families.

Of all these trends, the increased participation of women in the labour force has had the greatest impact on Australian families<sup>1</sup>. The 1947 census revealed that, in NSW, married women accounted for only 21% of employed women. By June 1993, married women represented 59% of employed women. Over the same period, women increased their share of the labour market from 23% to 42%.

Accordingly, there has been a marked change in the employment patterns of couple families over the past decade. The number of couple families in NSW with two income earners has steadily increased to 45% in June 1993, with a corresponding decrease in the number of couple families with only one income earner to 28%.

This section examines the impact of a range of employment and unemployment trends on different types of NSW families, based mainly on data from the June 1993 Labour Force Survey. The key issues dealt with include:

- Patterns of labour force activity of couple families, and the relationship of these patterns to the presence or otherwise of dependent children. For example, couple families with dependent children are more likely to have both parents employed than those without.
- Patterns of labour force activity of lone parents. Lone parents are less likely to be employed than partnered parents. Also there are significantly different patterns of labour force participation between male lone parents and female lone parents.

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<sup>1</sup> Douglas S, Groth A and Pech J *Married Women in the Social Security System*, Policy Discussion Paper No. 1, Social Policy Division, Department of Social Security, October 1993.

- The effect of young children on the full-time employment of their parents. Women are far more likely than men to reduce their hours of work if they have young children. In addition, there is a clear relationship between the hours worked and the age of the youngest child.
- Barriers to work. Caring for children remains a major barrier to labour force participation for most parents, and particularly for lone parents.
- Young people and the labour market. Young people continue to be affected by higher than average rates of unemployment. The adverse effects of unemployment are felt not only by the young people concerned, but also by their families, who are often placed under additional emotional and financial stress. Young people are more likely to seek part-time rather than full-time employment, reflecting their high levels of involvement in educational activities, either at school or tertiary levels.

Definitions for terms used in this section (such as 'labour force' and 'participation rate') can be found in the glossary.

## Couple families

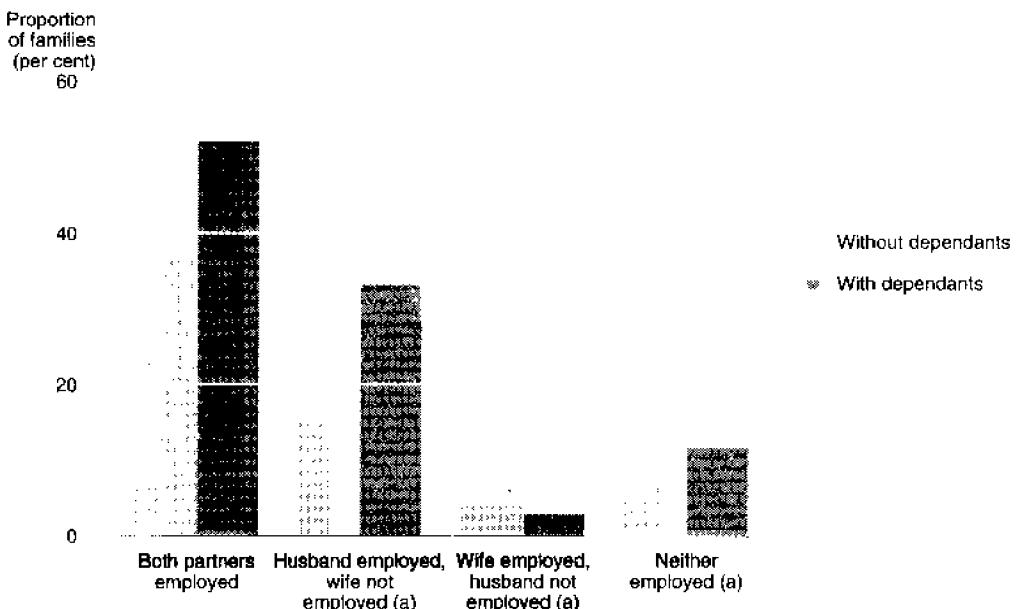
Couple families represented more than 80% of families in NSW at June 1993. Couple families with both partners employed accounted for 45% of all couple families, while those with only one partner employed made up 28%.

Just over half of couple families had dependants present. As graph 4.1 demonstrates, there was quite a significant difference in the employment patterns of couples with and without dependent children. For example, where dependants were present, more than half (52%) of couple families had both partners employed and more than one-third (36%) had one partner employed. In total, 88% of these families had one or both partners employed. By contrast, in couple families without dependants, only 56% had one or both partners employed.

In couple families, either with or without dependants, where there was only one partner employed, it was usually the husband (88%) rather than the wife (12%) (*see Appendix Table A4.1*).

## Employment

**Graph 4.1 Employment of partners in couple families, NSW, June 1993**



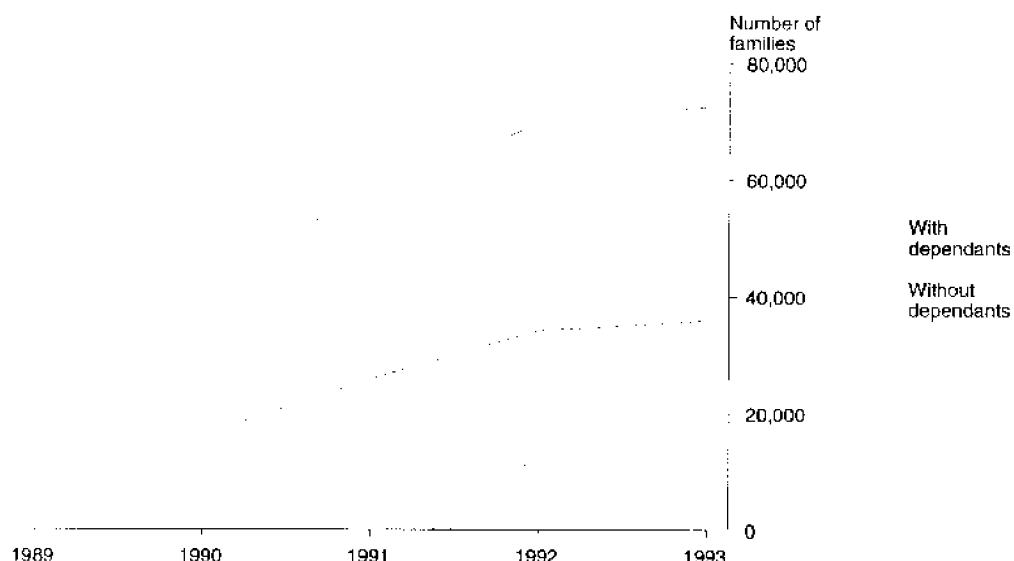
(a) 'Not employed' includes people who are unemployed and people who are not in the labour force.  
Source: Labour Force Survey

The number of couple families with one or both partners unemployed increased from 65,900 in June 1989 to 108,500 in June 1993, reflecting the general rise in unemployment over this period.

In couple families with dependent children, the number of families with one or both partners unemployed nearly doubled between June 1989 and June 1993 to reach 72,500. This represented an increase from 6% to 11%. In families where there were no dependants, the number increased by about half to reach 36,000, representing an increase from 4% to 6%.

Graphs 4.1 and 4.2 illustrate the low labour force participation of married couples without dependants. This reflects the older average age of these couples, who are more likely to be retired than actively seeking employment. Some 40% of these families had neither partner in the labour force in June 1993, compared to only 5% of couple families with dependants.

**Graph 4.2 Couple families with one or both partners unemployed, NSW, June 1989 to 1993**



Source: Labour Force Survey

## Lone parent families

As discussed in Chapter 1, lone parent families are a relatively small proportion of NSW families. Lone parents with dependants made up 9% of all families and the majority of lone parents were women.

Lone mothers are less likely to be employed than married mothers with dependent children. In June 1993, only 44% of lone mothers were employed compared to 55% of married mothers with dependent children. However, full-time employment levels were about the same (25%).

Table 4.1 highlights the different employment patterns of lone mothers compared to lone fathers. Just over half (52%) of lone mothers were in the labour force compared to 71% of lone fathers. Only 26% of lone mothers were employed full-time compared to 49% of lone fathers.

**Table 4.1 Labour force status of lone parent families with dependants, NSW, June 1993**

Labour force status	Male parent	Female parent	Total
—per cent—			
<i>Employed</i>	55.4	43.7	44.8
Full-time	48.7	25.9	28.1
<i>Unemployed</i>	15.7	8.6	9.3
Looking for full-time work	13.2	5.7	6.4
Not in the labour force	28.9	47.7	45.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Labour Force Survey

## Employment

The number of lone parent families with the parent unemployed more than doubled between 1989 and 1993, reaching 13,500 in June 1993. This represented an increase from 5% to 9% of lone parent families, which is comparable to the increase in the incidence of unemployment for couple families with dependants.

**Graph 4.3 Lone parent families with dependants with parent unemployed, NSW, June 1993**



Source: Labour Force Survey

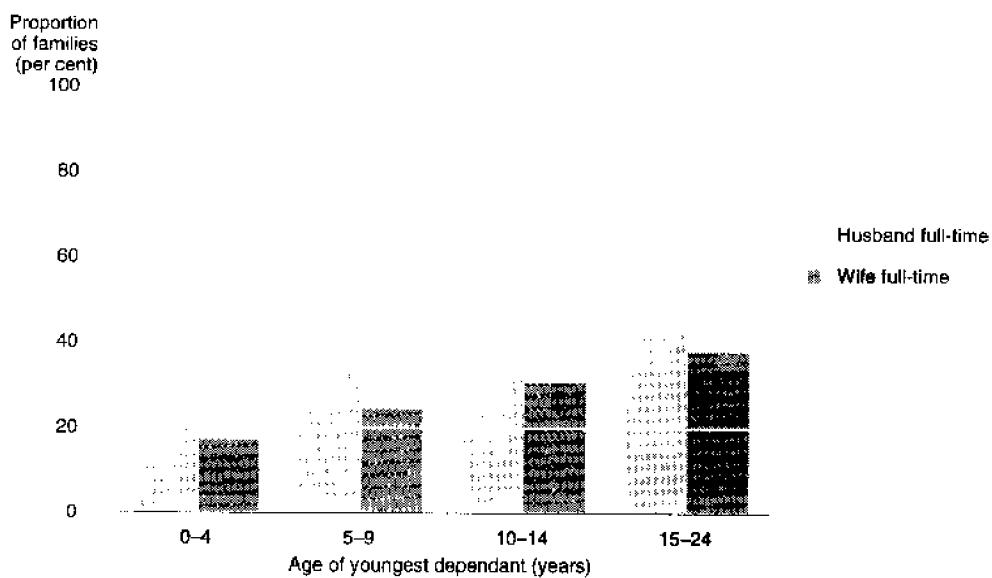
## The effect of children on employment

The age of the youngest dependent child in couple families has a significant effect on the full-time employment status of married women.

As the age of the youngest dependent child increases, so too does the proportion of families where the wife is employed full-time. In couple families where the youngest dependant was aged 15 years or over, the proportion of families where the wife was employed full-time was double the proportion of families where the youngest dependant was of pre-school age—38% compared with 17%. By contrast, there was virtually no effect on husbands' full-time employment (see Appendix Table A4.2).

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 4.4 Couple families with dependants present, NSW, June 1993**



*Source: Labour Force Survey*

The 1992 Family Survey provides additional information about the weekly hours worked by people according to whether or not they have children aged 0–11 years.

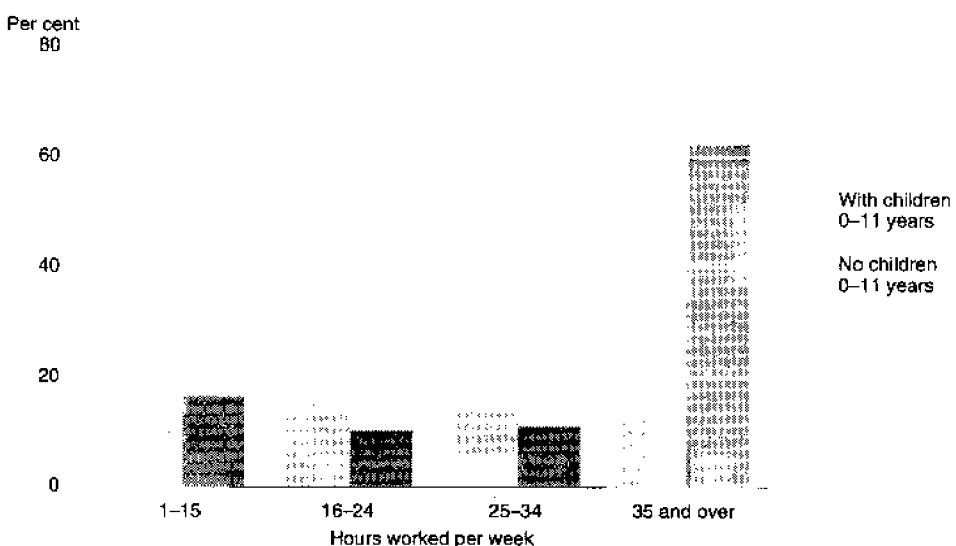
This information provides a clearer picture of how the presence of young children affects the number of hours worked by men and women in a week. Full-time employment is considered to be thirty-five hours and over per week, while part-time employment is considered to be between one and thirty-four hours per week.

Women were far more likely to work fewer hours if they had children aged 0–11 years living with them. Only 40% of employed women with children aged 0–11 years worked 35 hours and over, compared with nearly two-thirds of women without children in this age range.

By contrast, men were likely to work 35 hours and over whether or not there were children aged 0–11 years living with them.

## Employment

**Graph 4.5 Employed females: Weekly hours worked, NSW, 1992**



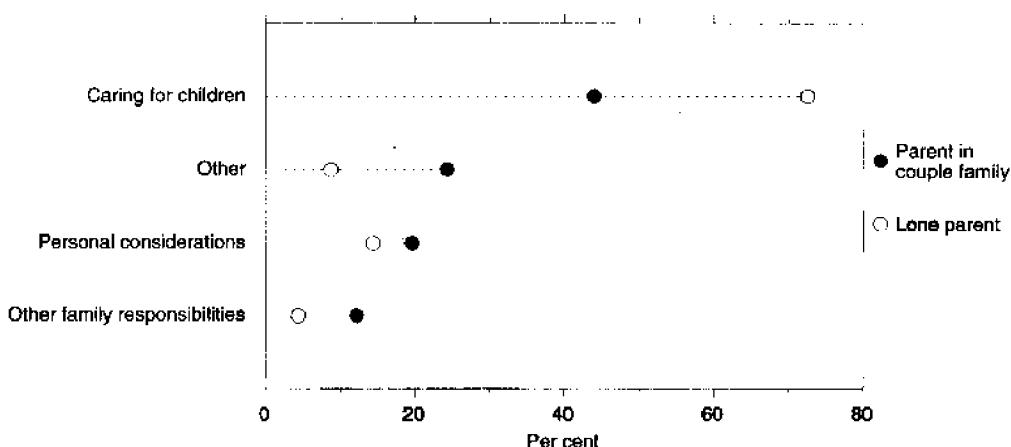
Source: 1992 Family Survey

## Barriers to labour force participation for parents

Many parents would like to work, but for a variety of reasons encounter barriers to labour force participation. The 1992 Family Survey collected information on a range of potential barriers that parents face.

Lone parents were more likely than partnered parents to experience a barrier to labour force participation (15% compared to 8%). Caring for children was the primary barrier for most parents, and particularly so for lone parents. Almost three-quarters of lone parents cited this as their major barrier to labour force participation, compared with less than half of parents with a partner.

**Graph 4.6 Parents: Barriers to labour force participation, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Family Survey

## Young people and the labour market

The Labour Force Survey collects information on young people in the labour force from the age of 15 years. Two age groups are of particular interest, those aged 15–19 years (teenagers) and those aged 20–24 years. These two groups exhibit employment patterns which differ from each other and from the general population.

### Labour force participation

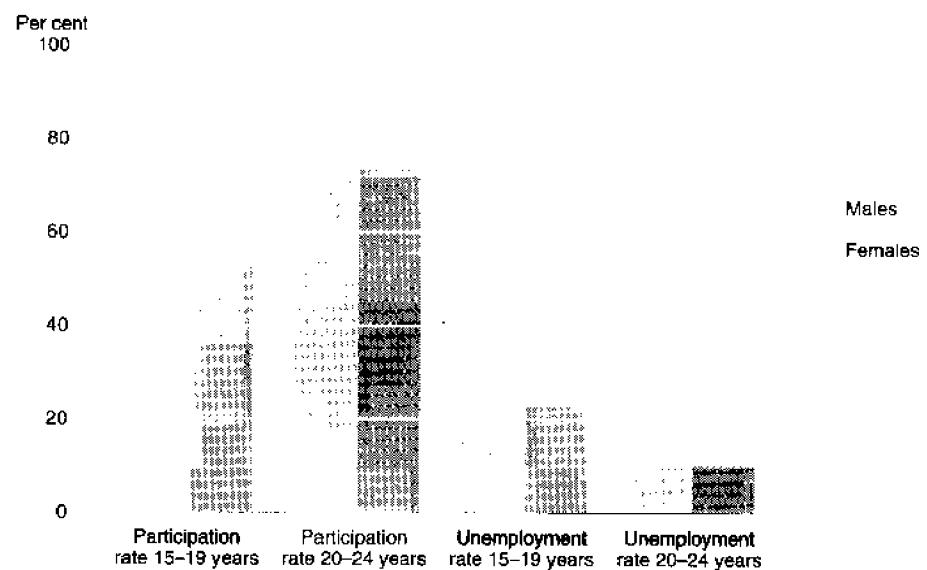
In NSW in June 1993, only half of the teenagers aged 15–19 years were in the labour force (that is, employed or unemployed). Males and females had similar levels of participation. The low level of labour force participation by young people in this age group reflects the fact that many are involved in either full-time or part-time study.

For those aged 20–24 years, the participation rates reached 80% overall. However, the participation rate of males was greater than that of females (86% compared with 74%).

In June 1993, 21% of those teenagers who were in the labour force were unemployed. This was almost twice the unemployment rate of the total NSW population (10.6%). The rate for females aged 15–19 years (23%) was slightly higher than the rate for males (19%).

The unemployment rate for those aged 20–24 years was lower than that for teenagers, but at 14% was still higher than that of the total population. The unemployment rate for males in this age group was substantially higher than for females (18% compared with 10%) (see *Appendix Table A4.3*).

**Graph 4.7 Young people aged 15–24: Unemployment and participation rates, NSW, June 1993**



Source: Labour Force Survey

Levels of full-time and part-time labour market involvement also varied between the groups, with 54% of employed 15–19 year olds working part-time compared with 21% of those aged 20–24 years. About one third (32%) of unemployed teenagers wanted to work part-time, compared with 9% of those aged 20–24 years.

Again, the large numbers of teenagers with part-time participation in the labour force reflects their involvement in study at school or tertiary levels.

## Transition from education to work

There are increasing numbers of people, especially young people, who continue their education to obtain the skills and abilities needed to equip themselves for the workforce. However, in today's economic climate, the speed of the transition from education to work, especially for young people, is of interest. How quickly do young people move from full-time education to the work force? Figures show that in NSW in May 1993 68% of those who attended full-time education in 1992, and who had since left full-time education, were employed.

There were 50,200 school leavers (who had attended school full-time) in NSW in 1992, of which 97% were aged 15–19 years. Over 90% of these school leavers aged 15–19 years had joined the labour force, with 67% employed and 24% unemployed.

There were 53,100 tertiary education leavers (who had attended full-time tertiary education) in NSW in 1992. Just over 60% of these leavers were aged 15–24 years. Over 90% of leavers aged 15–24 years had joined the labour force, with 77% employed and 16% unemployed.

**Table 4.2 1992 school and tertiary education leavers: Labour force status, NSW, May 1993**

Labour force status in 1993	Age group		
	15–19 years	20–24 years	15–64 years
—'000—			
SCHOOL LEAVERS			
<b>Attended school full-time in 1992</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>**1.4</b>	<b>50.2</b>
<i>In the labour force in 1993</i>	44.5	**0.7	45.2
Employed	32.8	**0.3	33.0
Unemployed	11.8	**0.4	12.2
<i>Not in the labour force in 1993</i>	*4.2	**0.7	*5.0
TERTIARY LEAVERS			
<b>Attended tertiary full-time in 1992</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>53.1</b>
<i>In the labour force in 1993</i>	9.3	21.2	47.0
Employed	7.5	17.7	37.1
Unemployed	**1.8	*3.5	9.9
<i>Not in the labour force in 1993</i>	**0.3	**2.0	6.1

Source: Survey of Transition from Education to Work.



## **5. Income and expenditure**

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### **Income**

A person's economic well-being, in terms of standard of living and quality of life, is largely dependent on both personal economic resources and those of the family unit. Low personal income is not necessarily an indication of economic deprivation or low standard of living, as income and other economic resources are generally shared in family households. As well, family members who live in different households may give or receive financial assistance at various stages in their life cycle.

#### **Family income**

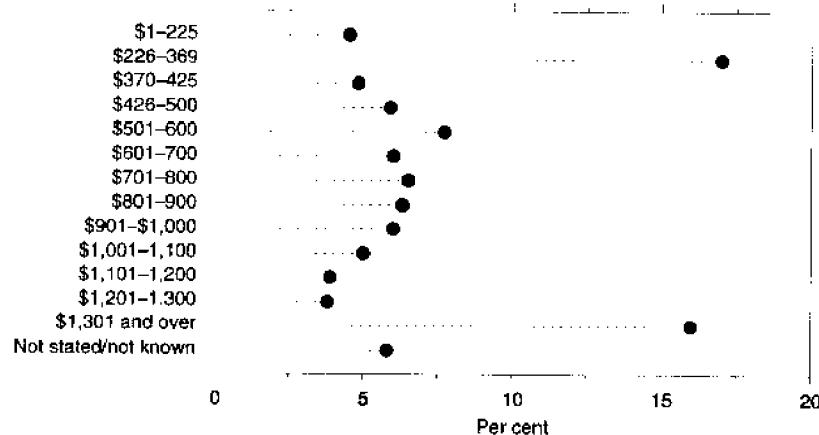
Family income comprises the total income from all family members from all sources. In 1992, nearly 5% of NSW families had incomes under \$226 per week and 17% had incomes in the range \$226 to \$369, while 16% of families had incomes greater than \$1,301.

Income levels varied greatly with family type, largely a reflection of the number of income earners present. Over 40% of lone parent families had incomes below \$370, compared with 18% of couple families. Of families with dependent children, over half (52%) of lone parents had incomes under \$370 compared with 9% of couples. The large number of couple families where both partners were employed accounted for much of this difference in income (see Chapter 4). The high proportion of low income lone parents is also a reflection of the low labour force participation rates of lone mothers (who make up the majority of lone parents) and of generally lower earnings of women relative to men.

For couple families, incomes were lower in families without dependent children, partly due to the low incomes of many aged pensioner couples. For lone parents, those without dependent children had relatively higher incomes (*see Appendix Table A5.1*).

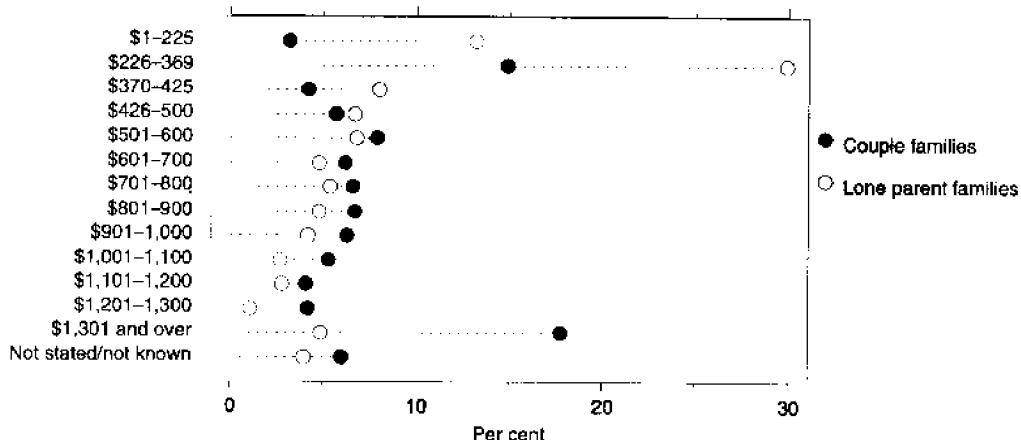
## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 5.1 Weekly family income, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Family Survey

**Graph 5.2 Weekly family income by family type, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Family Survey

### Sources of family income

In 1992 over 60% of NSW families reported wages and salaries as their main source of income. A government pension or benefit was the main source of income for around one-fifth of all families.

Couple families with dependent children had the highest proportion of wage or salary earners (77%), compared with only 40% of lone parents with dependent children. Over half of lone parents with dependants reported a government pension or benefit as their main source of income.

1992 Department of Social Security figures (*see Appendix Table A5.2*) show that 501,699 people received an age pension in NSW and a further 11,630 received a wife/carer's pension. Overall, about 9% of the NSW population received an age or wife/carer's pension as at 30 June 1992 while about 5% received an unemployment (Job Search or Newstart) allowance. Nearly 98,000 people received a sole parent's pension while over 634,000 families received family assistance payments.

## Income and expenditure

**Table 5.1 Main source of family income, NSW, 1992**

Main source of family income	Couple family		Lone parent family			Total families
	With depend- ants	Without depend- ants	With depend- ants	Without depend- ants	Other	
—per cent—						
Wage or salary	77.4	52.1	40.3	64.0	*62.4	62.4
Own business	10.6	8.3	**1.5	*6.4	**3.7	8.5
Government pension or benefits	9.7	25.8	56.0	26.5	*23.7	21.8
Other	2.3	13.9	**2.1	**3.0	**10.2	7.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

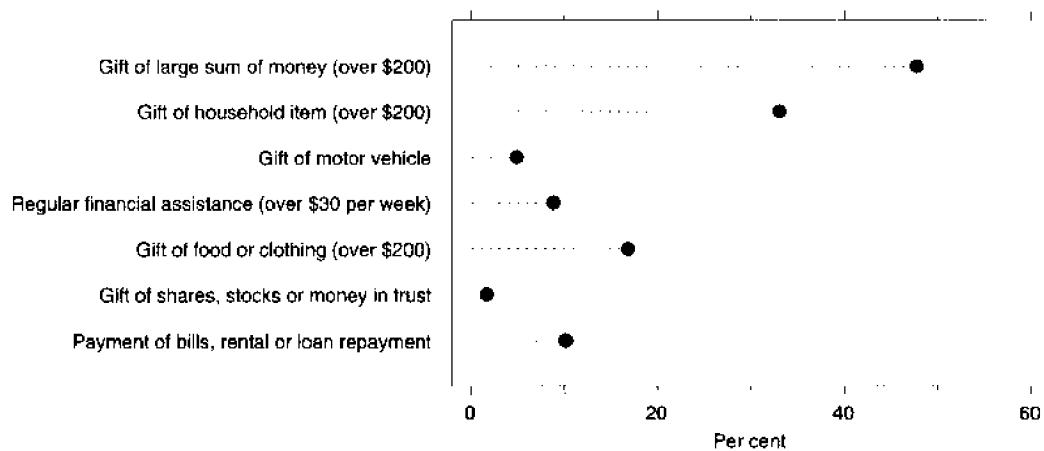
*Source: 1992 Family Survey.*

### Family income support

The 1992 Family Survey explored the extent to which families share their income and assets by examining the various kinds of assistance received from extended family sources.

In NSW, 369,700 people, or 8% of people aged 15 years and over, reported having received some sort of income support in the previous twelve months from family members not living with them. Of these, about half (48%) received a gift of a large sum of money (over \$200) and one third received the gift of a household item worth over \$200. Other kinds of support received were a gift of clothing or food worth over \$200 (17%), payment of bills, rental or loan repayments (10%) and regular financial assistance of over \$30 per week (9%).

**Graph 5.3 Kind of income support received (a), NSW, 1992**



(a) More than one kind of support may be received.  
*Source: 1992 Family Survey*

## Expenditure

This section examines the spending patterns of NSW families using data from the 1988–89 Household Expenditure Survey. As income is a major factor in determining the level and pattern of household expenditure, household income data from the above survey are also included.

The way in which a household spends its income is largely governed by the number of household members and their ages. Household size can range from one person to very large households comprising several adults and several children. In 1988–89 the average NSW household contained 2.0 adults and 0.8 children.

NSW households spent an average of \$522.80 per week on commodities and services in 1988–89 (*see Appendix Table 5.3*). Nearly one-fifth of household expenditure was on food and non-alcoholic beverages followed by current housing costs (15%) and transport (15%).

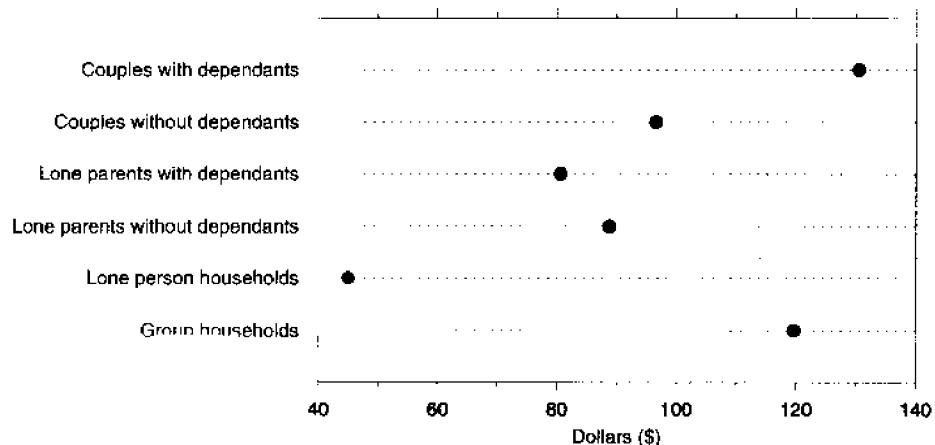
Low income households spent proportionally more on food and non-alcoholic beverages (21%) than high income households (17%), and more on housing (17% and 13% respectively) and medical expenses (5% and 4% respectively). By contrast, the proportions spent on alcohol, clothing and footwear, transport and recreation were higher in high income households. This can be partly explained by the different characteristics of these households. Many low income households consisted of single older people, while high income households were predominantly couple families with a household head of working age and, on average, three to four members (*see Appendix Table A5.4*).

### Expenditure patterns of families and households

The economies of scale in households of different sizes and compositions are apparent in several items of expenditure (*see Appendix Tables A5.3 and A5.4*). For example, average expenditure per head on food and non-alcoholic beverages was only \$30.95 in families consisting of a couple with two dependent children. This compares with an average expenditure of \$45.04 in lone person households during the same period.

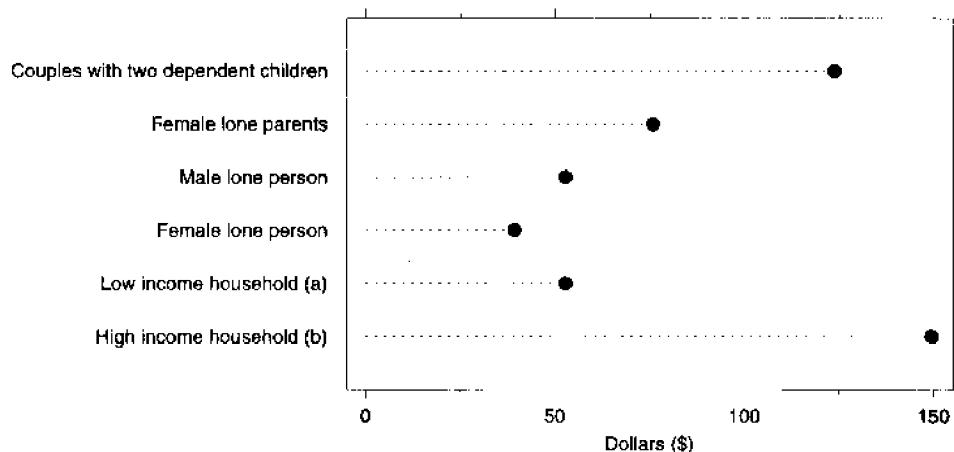
## Income and expenditure

**Graph 5.4 Average weekly household expenditure on food and non-alcoholic beverages by household type, NSW, 1988–89**



Source: 1988–89 Household Expenditure Survey

**Graph 5.5 Average weekly household expenditure on food and non-alcoholic beverages by selected household groups, NSW, 1988–89**



(a) Low income households are those earning less than \$225 per week. (b) High income households are those earning more than \$970 per week.

Source: 1988–89 Household Expenditure Survey

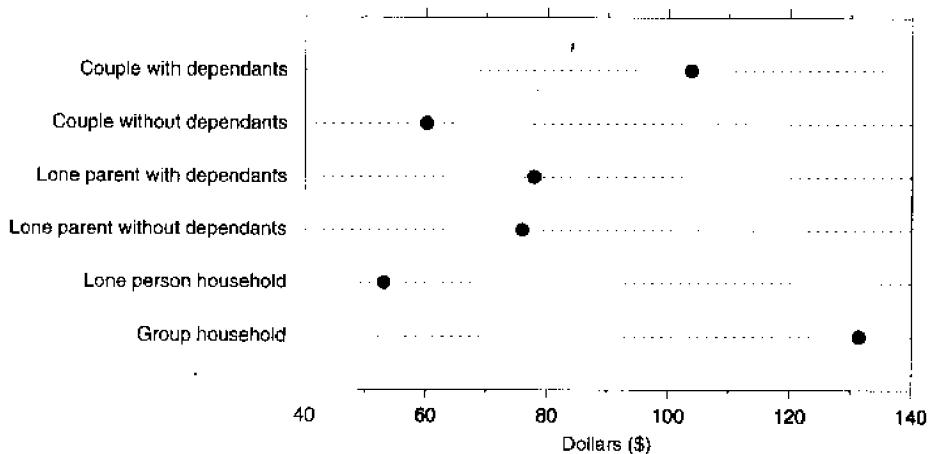
Similarly, in households of two adults and two dependent children, expenditure per head on furniture and equipment (\$10.24) and on fuel and power (\$3.70) was only half that of a lone person household. Expenditure per head on current housing costs was \$27.45 in families consisting of a couple and two dependent children compared to an average expenditure of \$53.09 in lone person households.

Lone male households spent much more per head on transport (\$64.86) and recreation (\$43.20) and lone female households spent more per head on medical care and health expenses (\$15.68) and personal care (\$6.99). In part this reflects the age and income differences of these households, the lone female households being older and with much lower incomes than similar male households.

## NSW Families: A Profile

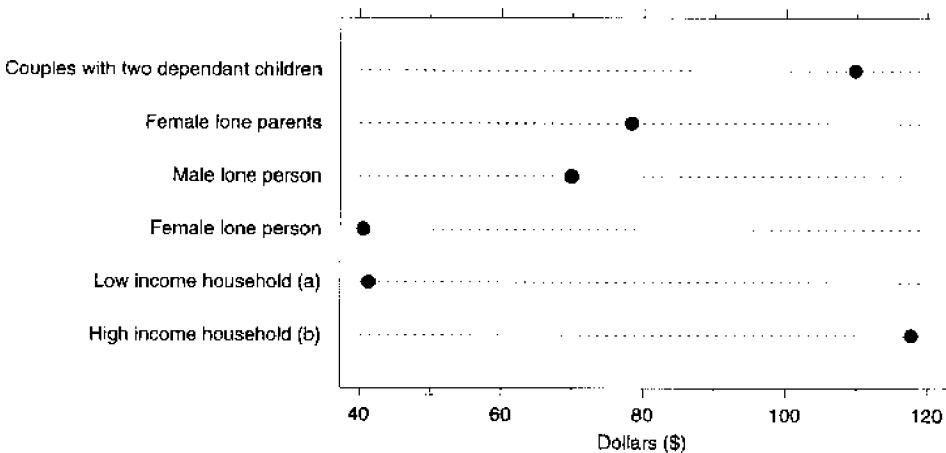
Weekly housing, power, and service costs were proportionally higher for female lone parent households (27%) than the NSW average (22%). Lone parents with dependants spent an average of \$77.84 per week, or 18% of their total expenditure, on housing costs, while couple families with dependants spent an average of \$103.75 (15%). Housing costs are related to whether households are renting, purchasing or own their homes, with the proportion of home ownership being highest in couple families without dependants and in lone female households.

**Graph 5.6 Average weekly household expenditure on current housing costs by household type, NSW, 1988–89**



Source: 1988–89 Household Expenditure Survey

**Graph 5.7 Average weekly household expenditure on current housing costs by selected household groups, NSW, 1988–89**



(a) Low income households are those earning less than \$225 per week. (b) High income households are those earning more than \$970 per week.

Source: 1988–89 Household Expenditure Survey

The widespread commitment to owning their own home and having a comfortable lifestyle can mean that many people experience difficulty in paying bills and making loan repayments. Over one-third of all people aged 15 years and over in NSW in 1992 reported difficulty in paying bills and making loan repayments. Similarly, over one-third of couple families and





## Income and expenditure

over 40% of lone parent families reported such difficulty. Of families with dependants, over 40% of couple families and over 50% of lone parent families reported having difficulty paying bills and making loan repayments.

**Table 5.2: Difficulty paying bills and making loan repayments (a), NSW 1992**

Type of family /household	Not difficult		Difficult		Total	
	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion
	'000	per cent	'000	per cent	'000	per cent
Couple family—						
With dependants	1,125.2	60.4	738.7	39.6	1,863.8	100.0
Without dependants	1,169.0	72.7	439.6	27.3	1,608.7	100.0
Lone parent family—						
With dependants	120.1	47.7	131.8	52.3	251.9	100.0
Without dependants	107.1	74.1	37.4	25.9	144.5	100.0
Other family	31.1	75.1	*10.3	*24.9	41.3	100.0
Non-family members	441.2	65.6	231.7	34.4	672.9	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,993.6</b>	<b>65.3</b>	<b>1,589.5</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>4,583.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) People aged 15 years and over.

Source: 1992 Family Survey



## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table 6.1 Nature of occupancy, NSW, 1992**

Nature of occupancy	Couple family		Lone parent family			Total families
	With dependants	Without dependants	With dependants	Without dependants	Other family	
—'000—						
Owning	211.0	409.5	26.0	35.3	*5.6	687.3
Purchasing	325.4	147.9	29.2	*6.8	**1.1	510.3
Renting	138.8	117.2	84.9	13.3	*8.4	362.6
Boarding	*3.3	*3.5	*6.5	**2.9	..	16.2
Living rent or board free	*9.8	*10.4	**2.8	*4.4	**3.1	30.5
Other	**2.9	*6.0	..	**1.6	**1.2	11.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>691.2</b>	<b>694.4</b>	<b>149.3</b>	<b>64.3</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>1,618.6</b>

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

**Accommodation support** The provision of free accommodation, usually from parents, or some sort of accommodation support such as gifts or loans of money or gifts of land, is one of the major ways families help support family members.

The receipt of free accommodation is related to the employment status, age and sex of children, whether they are studying and whether they are living with their parents. *Table A6.1* in the appendix shows that in 1992 students were more likely than non-students to live rent or board free. The same was true for unemployed people compared to those who had a job or were not in the labour force, for young people compared with older people and for males compared with females.

Of the 4.4 million people in NSW in 1992 aged 15 years and over (excluding school children), 11% were studying either full or part-time. Of these, one-quarter received free accommodation from their parents. Almost half of these people were aged under 25 years and over one-third were not employed.

Less than 4% of people aged 15 years and over who were not students received free accommodation from their parents. Of these, about 70% were aged under 25 years, 70% were employed, 60% were males, and 96% lived with a parent.

As well as providing free accommodation, parents and other members of the family can also provide accommodation support as gifts or loans of money for purchasing land or homes, or gifts of land or homes. Over a ten year period, 220,000 people aged 15–59 years received some form of accommodation support from a relative, usually their parents. People who received accommodation support were more likely to receive a loan of money (67%) than a gift of money (29%) or a gift of land (8%).

## 6. Housing

### Nature of occupancy

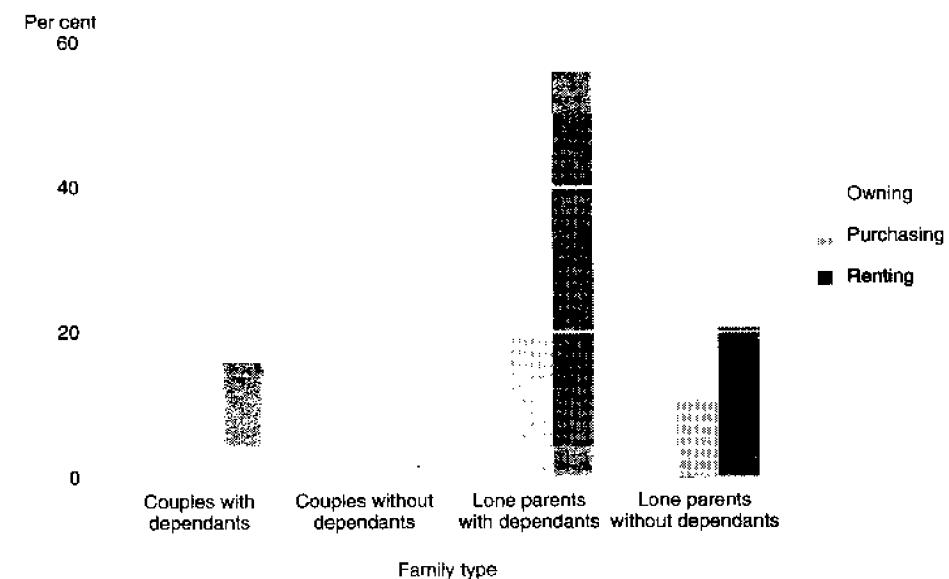
Home ownership is traditionally the great Australian dream. Housing needs and preferences not only change throughout a person's life cycle but are also influenced by other factors such as income, marital and family status, dependants and health.

Nearly three-quarters of NSW families in 1992 either owned their own homes (42%) or were paying off a mortgage (32%). Couple families both with and without dependants had significantly higher home ownership/purchasing levels (78% and 80% respectively) than lone parent families with and without dependants (37% and 66% respectively).

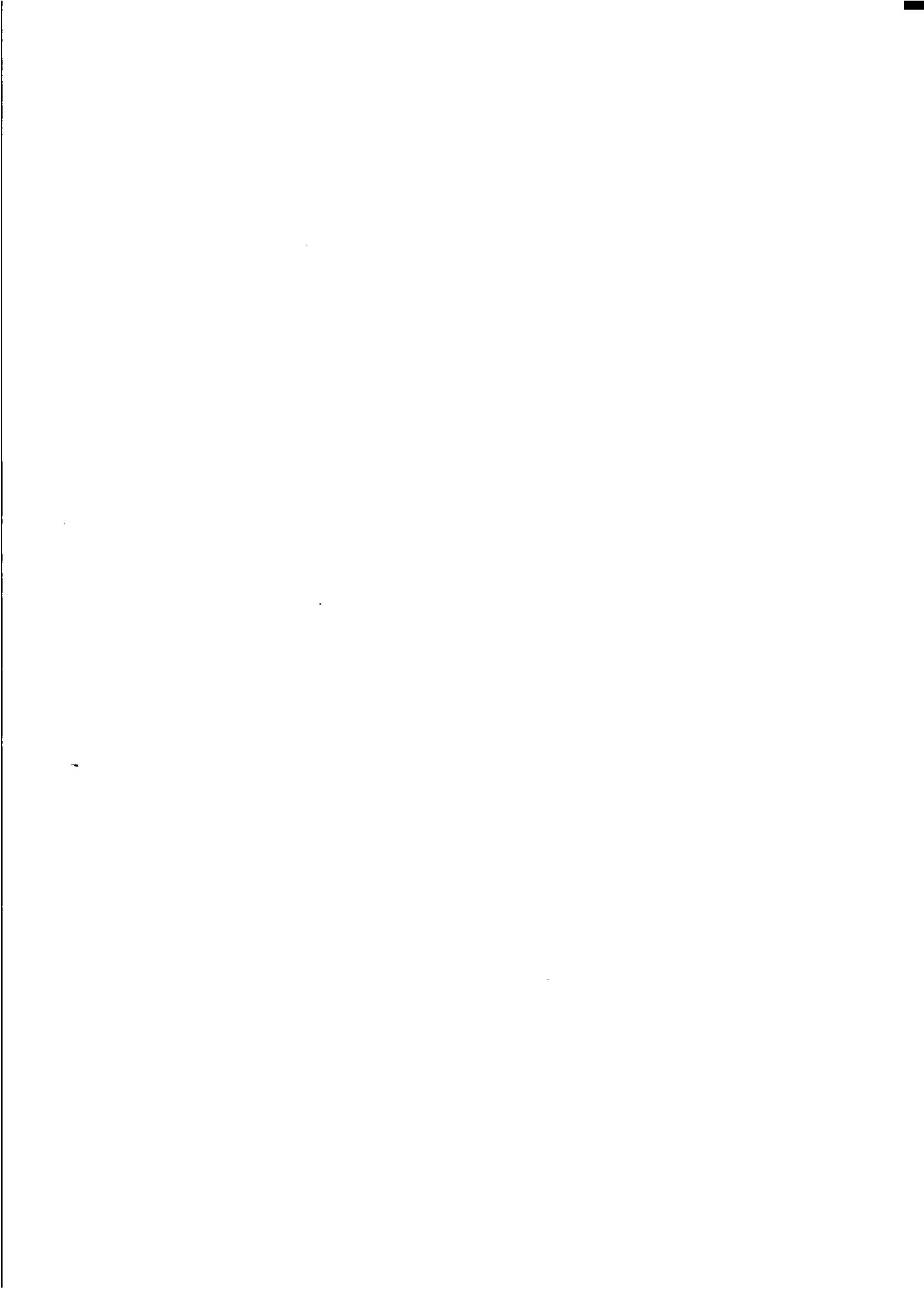
Less than one-quarter (22%) of families rented their accommodation. Lone parent families with dependants had a much higher rate of renting their homes (57%) than other types of families.

An estimated 3% of families were either boarding or living rent or board free.

**Graph 6.1 Nature of occupancy, NSW, 1992**

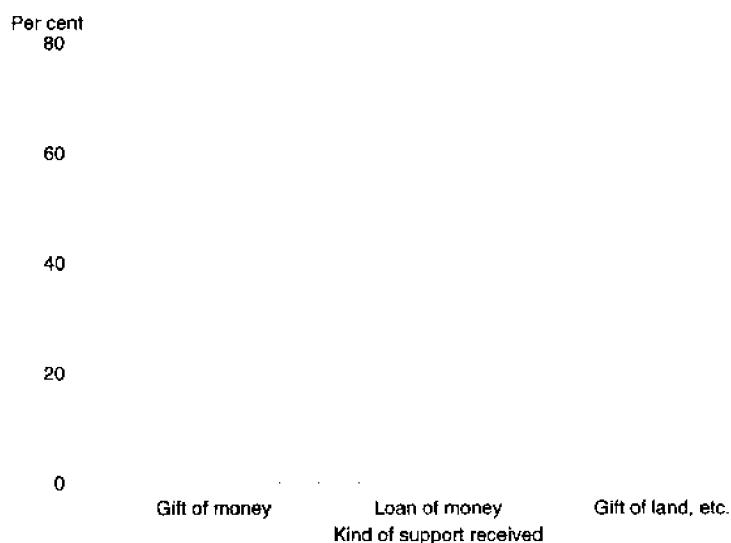


Source: 1992 Family Survey



## Housing

**Graph 6.2 Kind of accommodation support received (a), NSW, 1992**



(a) More than one kind of support may be received.

Source: 1992 Family Survey

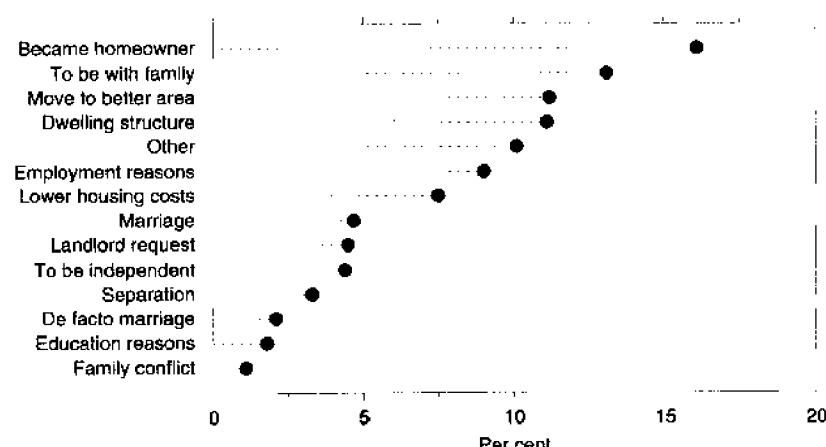
## Mobility

Australia is recognised as a mobile society, with people often changing where they live. People who have moved three or more times over a five year period are regarded as highly mobile. About 45% of NSW people aged 15 years and over changed their address at least once since 1 January 1987. Of these, 31% were highly mobile.

Nearly 30% of people who moved from their last residence did so for family reasons. The need to be with or near their family was the main reason 13% of people moved. Other family reasons for moving were getting married (5%) and to be independent (4%).

The main non-family reasons for moving were becoming a homebuyer/homeowner (16%), moving to a better area (11%), having to move because the dwelling structure was unsatisfactory (11%), employment reasons (9%) and to lower housing costs (7%) (see Appendix Table A6.2).

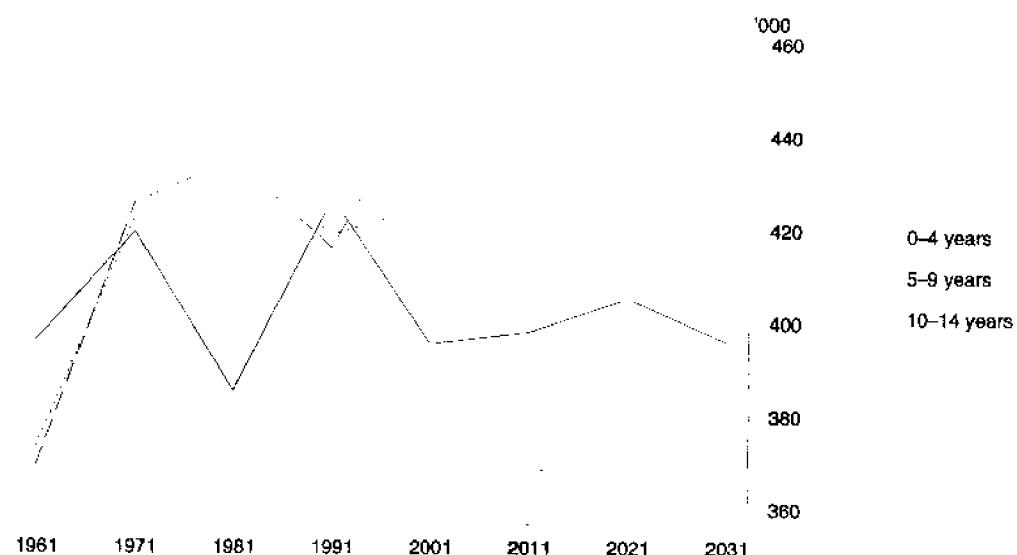
**Graph 6.3 Main reason moved from last residence (a), NSW, 1992**



(a) Since 1 January 1987.

Source: 1992 Family Survey

**Graph 7.1 Children aged 0–14 years: Counts and projections of the NSW population**



Source: 1961–1991 Census of Population and Housing; 2001–2031 Projections of the Populations of Australia, States and Territories 1989–2031 (3222.0).

## Child care

While parents are seen as the major providers of care for children under 12 years of age, they are not the sole providers. Child care by others is usually described as either formal or informal care (see Glossary for definitions). Included in informal care is the care provided for children by members of their families, other than their parents.

### Families using child care

In 1992, about 70% of the 608,500 families in NSW with children under 12 years of age used some form of child care. One parent families used child care slightly more (73%) than couple families (69%). Families of all types relied most heavily on informal child care arrangements than any other single form of child care. Almost half of one parent families used only informal child care (48%) compared with about 40% of couple families.

Informal child care was usually provided by family members (78%). Well over half (55%) of informal child care was provided by the grandparents of the child(ren), predominantly by the grandmother (42%). Other relatives provided 18% of informal child care, with 6% being provided by siblings. Informal care provided by neighbours or friends amounted to 20% while 4% were cared for by a privately employed person.

## **7. Family care**

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The family is the principal provider of care for its members, although this is often supplemented by care from sources outside the family. The provision of care may be shared by all the family members or may be the responsibility of one person. The extent to which family members undertake these responsibilities will impact on their ability to participate in other aspects of social and economic life.

Different forms of care and support are given to people at different stages of their life. Children, the ill, older people and people with disabilities are all significant recipients of care from family members.

### **Children**

Children receive a great deal of care from their family with the amount and type of care changing as the child grows. Parents are looked upon as the providers of most care given to young children, although other family members may also make a contribution.

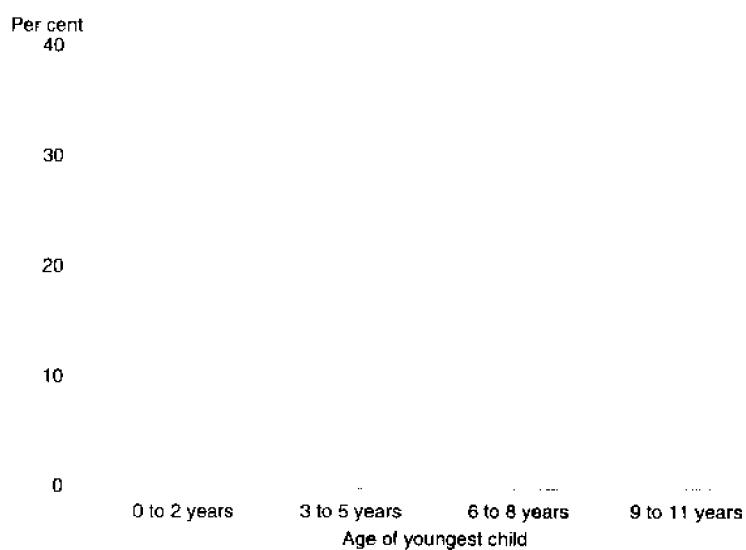
Children up to and including 14 years of age are particularly dependent on their parents. At age 15 school attendance is no longer compulsory and their level of dependence will be affected by factors such as their involvement in full-time education and their participation in the labour force.

In NSW in 1992, there were nearly 1.6 million dependent children in 840,000 families. There were 1.3 million children aged under 15 years, one million children aged under 12 years and 430,000 under 5 years.

Fluctuations in the number of children, as shown in the following graph, can be linked to the high birth rate in the years following World War II, as the post-war generation and subsequent generations had children of their own. By the year 2031 it is projected that there will be about 1.2 million children aged 0–14, or 16% of the projected population. In 1991, this age group represented nearly 22% of the population.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 7.3 Parents (a) who had difficulty balancing work and child care, NSW, 1992**



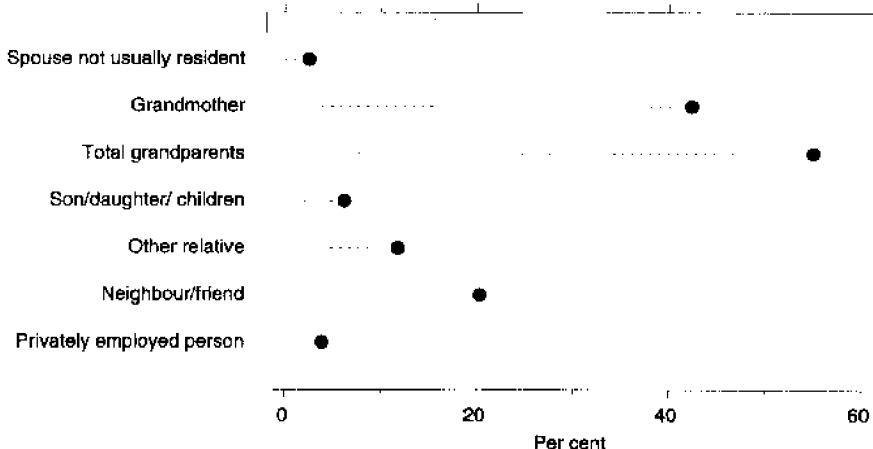
(a) Employed persons with children under 12 years of age.

Source: 1992 Family Survey



## Family care

**Graph 7.2 Main providers of informal child care, NSW, 1992**



*Source: 1992 Family Survey*

There were 1,035,400 children under 12 years of age in NSW families in 1992. Of these, 72% were involved in formal or informal care arrangements. Almost 40% of children received informal care only while less than 10% of children received only formal care. Almost one-quarter of the children (24%) were cared for by a combination of formal and informal care.

**Table 7.1 Type of formal and informal care used, NSW, 1992**

Type of care	Families (a)						Children (b)	
	Lone parent family		Couple family		Total families			
	No.	Proportion	No.	Proportion	No.	Proportion	No.	Proportion
Formal care only	5.2	5.3	39.6	7.8	44.8	7.4	95.2	9.2
Informal care only	46.9	47.7	207.5	40.7	254.4	41.9	405.4	39.2
Formal and informal care	19.5	19.9	102.9	20.2	122.5	20.1	242.8	23.5
Neither formal nor informal care	26.7	27.2	160.0	31.4	186.7	30.7	292.0	28.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>98.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>510.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>608.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,035.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Families with children under 12 years of age. (b) Children under 12 years of age.  
*Source: 1992 Family Survey*

### Balancing work and child care

There is a delicate balance for working parents in managing work and caring for children. In NSW in 1992, 801,800 employed people, or about 30% of the workforce, had children aged under 12 years.

An estimated 31% of employed parents with children under 12 years had difficulty managing work and caring for children and 73% of these worked full-time.

The proportion who had difficulty decreased as the age of the youngest child increased. Employed parents whose youngest child was aged 0–2 years experienced the most difficulty balancing work and child care (36%).

However, it is important to bear in mind that future trends in dependent age ratios may be dramatically affected by changes in labour market participation rates. For example, recent changes to compulsory retirement laws in NSW and many other States have meant that, for many older workers, retirement will be delayed beyond age 65, effectively broadening the definition of the *working age population*.

Further, other countries with ageing populations<sup>1</sup> have found that they have had to retain their older workers because of the fall in the number of young people entering the labour market. For these reasons, the dependent age ratios presented here are only an indication of the level of 'dependency' that may arise as a result of the ageing of the population if current patterns continue.

While it is true that the shift in the characteristics of the dependent population will have some impact on the type of care provided by families to their members, it must be remembered that people over 55 today are not only living longer, they are also healthier, more affluent, more active and better educated than any generation before them.

Moreover, according to the Australian Institute of Family Studies<sup>2</sup>, older people are more likely to be the providers rather than the receivers of many kinds of support—from simple things such as child-minding through to financial assistance for major purchases, education and home deposits.

**Table 7.2 Dependent age ratios (a), NSW**

	Age group (years)		
	0–14	65 and over	Total
1961	0.47	0.14	0.61
1971	0.43	0.13	0.56
1981	0.37	0.16	0.53
1991	0.33	0.18	0.51
2001	0.29	0.19	0.48
2011	0.26	0.21	0.47
2021	0.25	0.27	0.52
2031	0.25	0.34	0.59

(a) The population in each age group as a proportion of those aged 15–64.

Sources: 1961–1991 *Census of Population and Housing counts* and 2001–2031 *Projections of the Populations of Australia, States and Territories 1989–2031* (3222.0).

1 Using the experience of a Lifetime, American Association of Retired Persons, 1990.  
Employment Relations Programs, *Employment Relations Today*, Spring 1988.

R Clare and A Tulpule, *Australia's Ageing Society*, EPAC, January 1994.

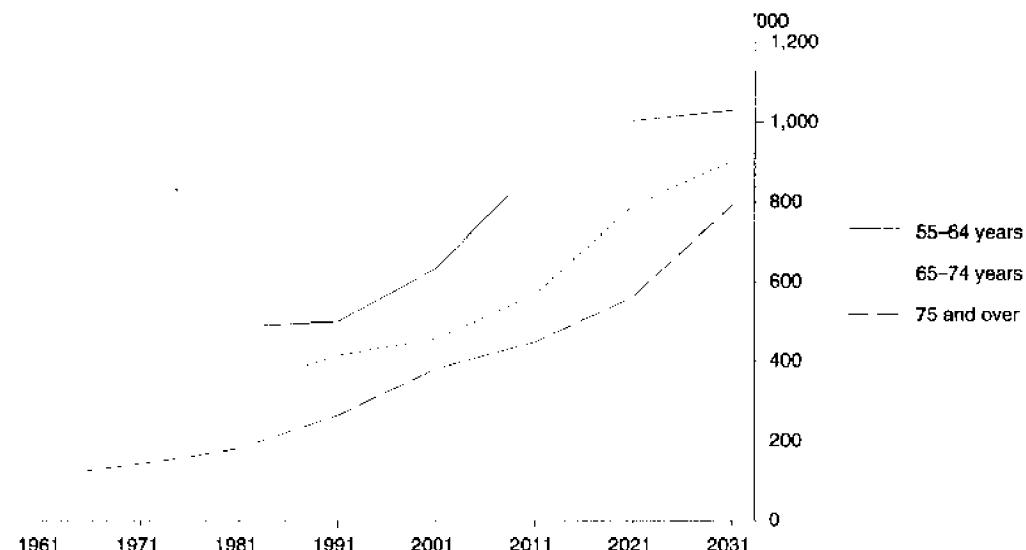
2 Dr D Edgar, Ageing — Everybody's Future, *Family Matters*, Issue No. 3, December 1991.

## Older people

The proportion of the population aged 55 years and over is growing rapidly. By the year 2031 it is projected that there will be 2.7 million people in NSW in this age group, representing 34% of the projected population. In 1991, the 1.2 million people in this age group represented 21% of the population.

As people get older, the ratio of men to women changes. In 1991, there were almost equal numbers of males and females aged between 55 and 64 years. There were slightly more women than men in the group aged 65–74 years. For those aged 75 and over there were substantially more women and by age 90 years and over there were three and a half times as many females as males.

**Graph 7.4 People aged 55 years and over: Counts and projections of the NSW population**



*Source: 1961–1991 Census of Population and Housing; 2001–2031 Projections of the Populations of Australia, States and Territories 1989–2031 (3222.0)*

## Dependent age ratios

Dependent age ratios are commonly used to provide a broad indication of the potential dependency burden of children (0–14 years) and the aged (65 years and over) on those of working age (15–64 years).

The following table shows the actual and projected ratios between 1961 and 2031. During this period the relationship between children and the aged changes dramatically. In 1961 children accounted for a very large part of the dependent population compared with older people. This has gradually changed and it is projected that by 2031 people aged 65 and over will account for a greater proportion of the dependent population.

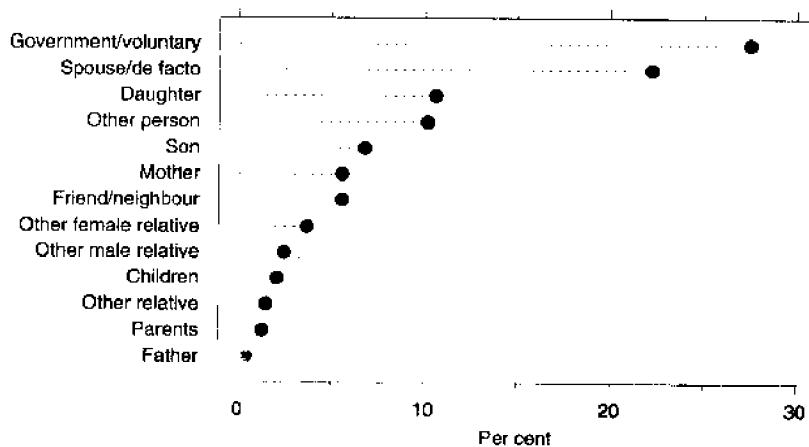
## Providers and receivers of care

### Receivers of care

The support and care that families provide to their members may take many forms. To those with a long term illness or disability or to older people, one major area of assistance involves the provision of personal care and home help.

In the 1992 Family Survey over one-quarter of a million (227,000) people aged 15 years and over in NSW said that they received help with these tasks. Well over half (57%) received this help from family members, with the remaining care provided by government and voluntary services (28%), friends and neighbours (6%) and other people (10%). The family members identified by recipients as most likely to provide help were partners (22%) and daughters (11%).

**Graph 7.6 Main providers of personal care/home help, NSW, 1992**



*Source: 1992 Family Survey*

Of people who received help, three-quarters received help with housework and one-half received help with meals. Housework was the most common type of help received in all age groups (see Appendix Table A7.3).

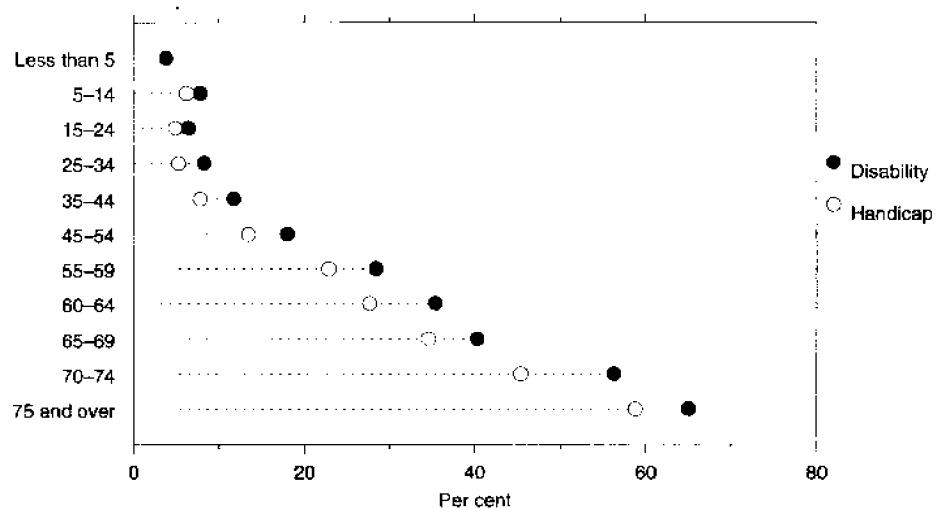
## People with disabilities

The number of people living with a disability or handicap in NSW is increasing. While the provision and receipt of appropriate care is a major issue for those people and their families, so too is access to the opportunities which determine the quality of life and well-being of all individuals and their families.

In the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, just over one million people in NSW were identified as having a disability. Four out of five of these people were further identified as having a handicap which affected their ability to perform many tasks associated with daily living.

The incidence of disability increased significantly with age. More than half (55%) of those identified were aged 55 years and over, with a further one-fifth aged between 35 and 54 years. Just over one-quarter of all people aged 55–59 years had a disability compared with nearly two-thirds of those aged 75 years and over (*see Appendix Table A7.1*).

**Graph 7.5 People with disabilities and handicaps: proportion in each age group, NSW, 1993**



*Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers*

People of working age (15–64 years) with disabilities and handicaps experienced higher unemployment rates and lower participation rates than non-disabled people.

The unemployment rate for people with handicaps was 21.6% compared with 11.3% for people with disabilities and 11.7% for those with no disability. The corresponding labour force participation rates were 44.0%, 75.9% and 76.4% respectively (*see Appendix Table A7.2*).

Nearly 30% of these carers, both men and women, were between 35 and 44 years of age. Three-quarters assisted only one family member, while 20% helped two family members. This latter group would have been predominately the carer's parents.

The majority (76%) of providers did not live in the same household as the family member to whom they gave assistance. Male providers were more likely to live in the same household (26%) than were females (22%).

## Care givers and employment

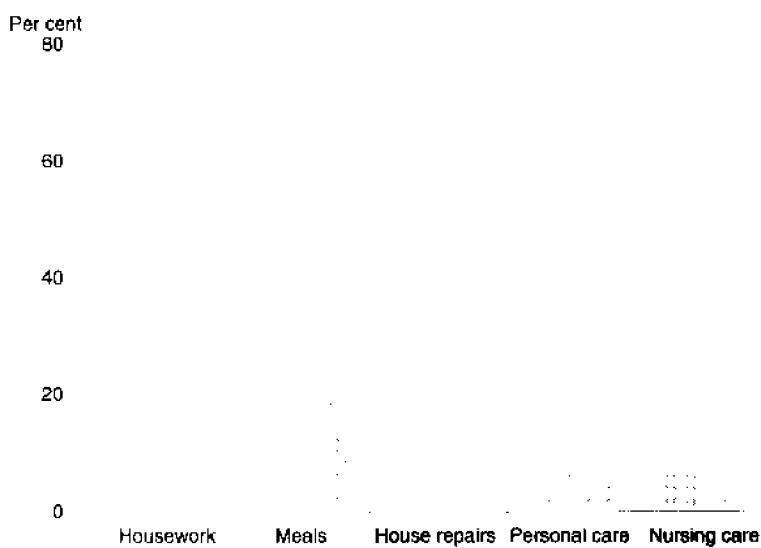
Care givers are often employed, in addition to providing personal care and home help to family members. In 1992, nearly half of all carers were employed. Of these, 28% experienced difficulty managing the activities of working and caring for disabled, ill or ageing family members.

Women were more likely than men to experience difficulty managing both employment and family caring (37% compared to 21%) (*see Appendix Table A7.5*).



## Family care

Graph 7.7 Type of personal care/home help received (a), NSW, 1992



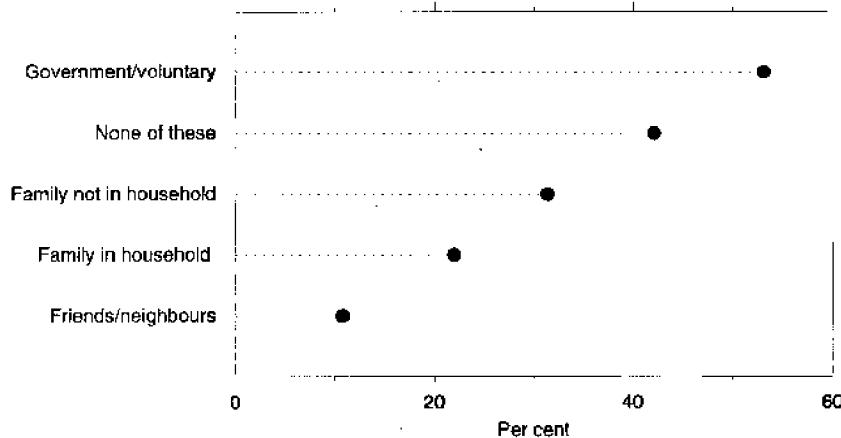
(a) Each person could receive help with more than one activity.

Source: 1992 Family Survey

## People who require more help

Nearly one in five of the people who received help reported needing more help with personal and home care tasks. There were 41,200 people who said they required more help, the majority (72%) being women. 53% required more help from government and voluntary organisations, 31% required more help from family members not living in the same household and 22% more help from family members living in the same household.

Graph 7.8 Additional personal care requirements (a), NSW, June 1992



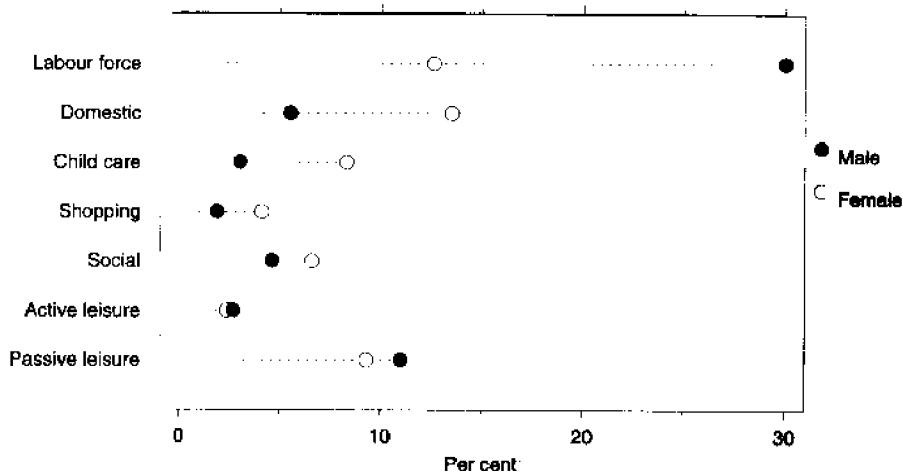
(a) Each person could indicate a need for additional help from more than one source.  
Source: 1992 Family Survey

## Care givers

The community generally sees women as the main providers of help with personal care and home help. In NSW in 1992, 440,000 people provided some assistance to family members with just over half (54%) of these being women (see Appendix Table A7.4).

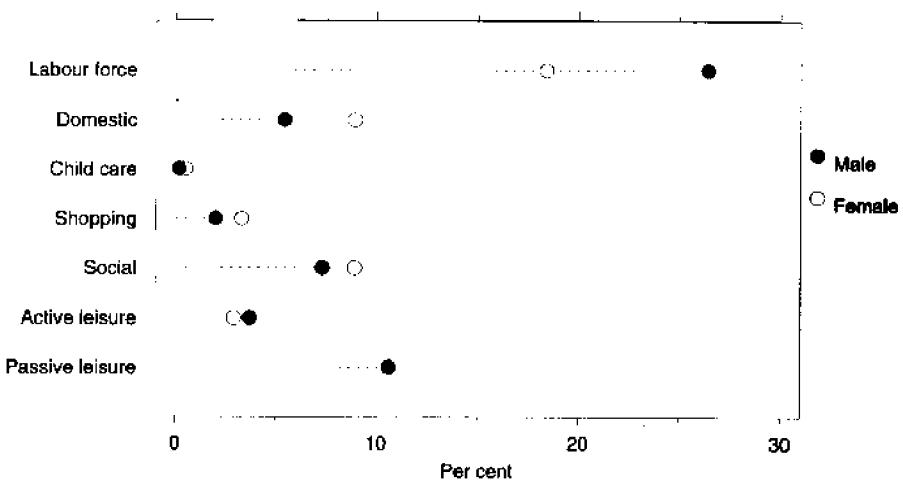
## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 8.1 Proportion of day spent on activities, employed people with children, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Time Use Survey

**Graph 8.2 Proportion of day spent on activities, employed people without children, NSW, 1992**



Source: 1992 Time Use Survey

## **8. Family lifestyle**

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The conflicting demands made on family members (especially parents with children) from work and unpaid domestic and caring tasks, have important implications for the amount of time available for leisure activities. The opportunity to participate in such activities, to relax, socialise with others, engage in creative or cultural activities or improve fitness through exercise or sport enhances a person's mental, social and physical well-being.

### **Time use**

The proportion of the day that people spend on activities varies according to whether they are male or female, employed or not employed, and especially whether or not they have dependent children. In NSW in 1992:

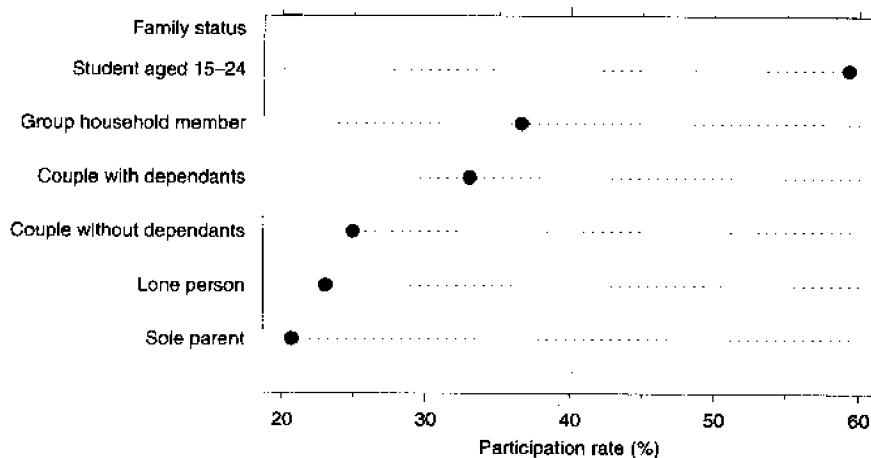
- employed men and women with children spent about 40% of their day on a combination of labour force (paid work) and household activities (unpaid work) and about 18% on social and leisure activities;
- employed women and men without children spent about 31% to 34% respectively of their day on combined labour force and household activities and 22% on social and leisure activities; and
- men and women who were not employed spent about 30% of their day on social and leisure activities if they did not have children and just over 20% of their day on such activities if they did.

The average allocation of time to various household tasks also corresponds to whether or not a person has children, as people with children spent up to twice the time on household activities as people without children.

On average in 1992, women spent almost twice as much time on domestic tasks as men. Where a woman was both employed and had children she spent almost three times as long on domestic tasks as employed men with children (see *Appendix Table A8.1*).

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 8.5 Involvement in sport (a), NSW, twelve months ended March 1993**



(a) People aged 15 years and over.

Source: Survey of Culture and Leisure

### Entertainment

Activities conducted outside the home for the purpose of enjoyment are an important component of leisure time. In June 1991 the ABS collected information about adult participation in eight activities in the previous 12 months, including visiting a library, museum or art gallery and attending concert, theatre or dance performances.

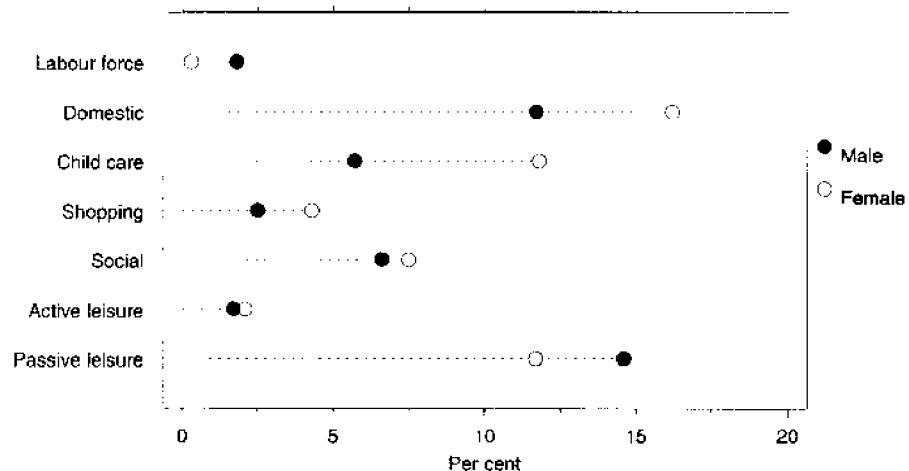
Libraries attracted the highest proportion of visitors in NSW in the 12 months ended June 1991 with a participation rate of 34%. Full-time students aged 18-24 years had the highest library participation rate of 77%. Sole parents with children aged 0-14 years also had a high library participation rate of 50%.

Museums, with a participation rate of 30%, were also well attended, particularly by people who lived in group households (40% participation rate).

Popular music concerts were attended most often by full-time students aged 18-24 years (participation rate of 64%) and people who lived in group households (participation rate of 52%).

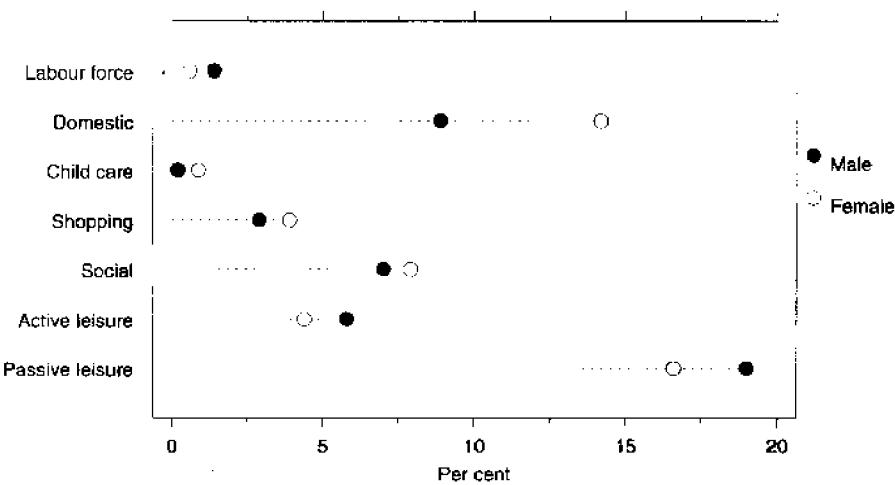
## Family lifestyle

**Graph 8.3 Proportion of day spent on activities, not employed people (a) with children, NSW, 1992**



(a) Includes people who are unemployed and people who are not in the labour force.  
Source: 1992 Time Use Survey

**Graph 8.4 Proportion of day spent on activities, not employed people (a) without children, NSW, 1992**



(a) Includes people who are unemployed and people who are not in the labour force.  
Source: 1992 Time Use Survey

## Involvement in sport

Australians are characterised by their involvement in sport. The following graph includes both paid and unpaid participation in sport but excludes spectator involvement.

In NSW in March 1993, students aged 15–24 years had the highest rate of involvement in sport at nearly 60%. This was followed by non-family members living together (group households) at 37%, which could be attributed to the high proportion of young males in such households. Family members in general had a participation rate of 32%, while couples with dependent children had a participation rate of 33%. Sole parents had the lowest participation rate at 21% (see Appendix Table A8.2).

## NSW Families: A Profile

Less than 20% of households do not recycle. Non-family households, which are predominantly lone person households, have the highest proportion of non-recycling at over 25%, followed by sole parents with dependants at 23%. Only 10% of couple families with dependants do not recycle.

**Table 8.2 Proportion of items recycled and recycling method (a), NSW, May 1992**

	Couple family		Sole parent		Non-family household	Total		
	With depend- ants	Without depend- ants	With depend- ants	Without depend- ants				
—per cent—								
ITEM RECYCLED								
Paper	58.3	60.4	42.7	67.7	53.6	57.5		
Glass	54.3	55.6	37.1	50.3	44.7	51.0		
Cans	43.4	43.1	36.4	38.0	31.8	39.4		
Plastic	39.6	35.8	30.7	36.4	26.2	33.9		
Motor oil	9.3	10.3	**1.4	*8.4	4.5	7.9		
Kitchen or food waste	36.1	35.6	18.3	28.0	20.8	30.3		
Garden waste	50.9	51.4	26.8	41.0	25.9	42.3		
Old clothing or rags	68.1	61.6	58.3	63.2	44.6	58.5		
RECYCLING METHOD								
Central collection point	57.2	53.3	49.5	44.1	40.1	50.0		
Collection from house	51.7	53.7	44.3	63.2	50.6	52.3		
Special areas at dump	11.4	6.7	**4.8	*6.5	4.6	7.3		
Compost or mulch	46.8	46.7	24.9	38.5	25.6	39.3		
Re-use within household	43.3	36.6	32.6	36.3	24.2	34.7		
Other	2.9	2.7	**3.8	**2.9	1.8	2.6		
No recycling by the household	10.3	16.1	22.5	13.7	25.5	17.3		

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of either items recycled or recycling methods used as more than one item or method may be used.

Source: *Survey of Environmental Issues*

## Family lifestyle

**Table 8.1 Participation rate of persons (a) attending cultural venues/activities, NSW, twelve months ended June 1991**

Family status	Library	Art gallery	Museum	Musical Other Class-				
				Popular music	Dance perform-	theatre per-	theatre per-	ical music concert
—per cent—								
Member of a family	34.0	20.8	29.2	27.4	10.4	19.3	16.6	7.3
Husband or wife	33.2	21.5	30.7	22.5	10.3	19.9	16.5	7.7
With dependants present	37.3	19.9	33.5	25.0	11.4	17.8	18.1	7.5
Without dependants present	28.8	23.3	27.7	19.9	9.2	22.1	14.9	7.9
Sole parent	45.3	23.6	31.6	28.5	16.4	18.8	22.3	7.8
With children aged 0–14 present	49.8	22.5	32.7	28.7	17.9	17.0	22.3	*6.5
Without children aged 0–14 present	*24.3	*28.5	*26.5	*27.5	**	*27.0	*22.3	*13.8
Full-time student aged 18–24	77.3	27.7	33.8	64.5	13.5	25.9	33.9	11.1
Not a member of a family	35.7	27.2	31.5	33.5	13.6	22.7	20.3	13.5
Living alone	32.2	24.6	26.3	22.2	12.2	21.7	16.7	13.2
Not living alone	41.5	31.5	39.8	51.7	15.8	24.3	26.1	13.9
<b>Total (b)</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>8.4</b>

(a) Aged 18 years and over. (b) Includes other children of married couple or family head, other relative of married couple or family head, other family head and persons in non-private dwellings and visitors to private dwellings.

Source: Survey of Culture and Leisure

## Families and the environment

The environment in which we live impacts on everybody—our lifestyle and our health, both present and future. Adherence to recycling strategies can have an important effect on the state of the environment.

The family in particular has a major role to play in the efficiency of recycling items used in the household. The following table shows the items recycled and the recycling method(s) used by families in NSW in 1992.

Nearly 60% of all NSW families recycled old clothing or rags. The recycling of old clothing and rags by families is likely to be the result of clothing being re-distributed within a household to other family members and the collection and distribution by charities through public appeals, occasional kerbside pickups and collection bins.

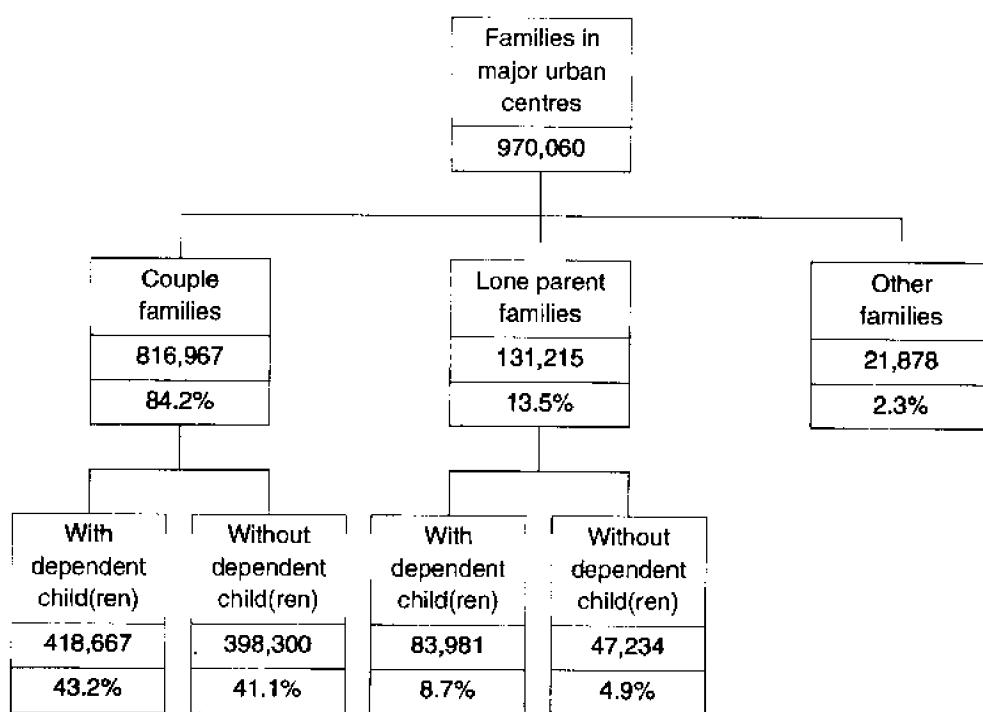
Paper is recycled by almost 60% of all families, with over two thirds of sole parent families without dependants recycling paper, while glass is recycled by over 50% of families.

Frequently, the effective recycling of an item depends on the recycling method employed. The high recycling rates of paper and glass would have much to do with regular local council kerbside collections. This method of collection from a house was used by 52% of households, followed by a central collection point used by 50% of households.

## Family structure

### The urban family: Major urban centres

Chart 9.1 The urban family: Major urban centres (a), NSW, 1991



(a) Urban centres with over 100,000 people (includes Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong).  
 Source: 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1)

#### *Couple families*

Couple families constituted 84% of all families in the cities of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong in 1991. Of couple families, 92% were in a registered marriage and the predominant family type was a couple with dependent children (43% of families). Almost 30% of families consisted of a couple only, of which 13% were in a de facto marriage.

#### *Lone parent families*

Lone parent families represented 14% of all families, while lone parent families with dependants made up 9% of all families. There were 137,083 dependent children in these lone parent families.

#### *Other households*

There were 263,321 people in lone person households, representing 7% of the population in major urban centres. Of people living alone, 42% were aged 65 years and over. A total of 156,176 people lived in group households, which consisted predominantly of people aged 15–44 years (82%).

## **9. Urban and rural families**

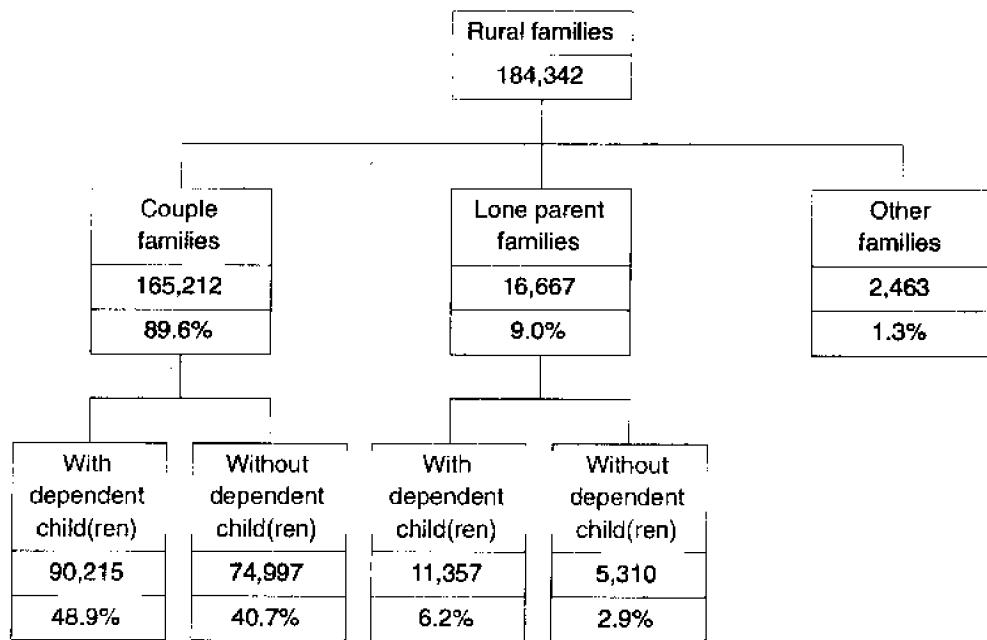
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1991 Census data indicate some urban/rural differences in family structure and economic status. In particular:

- the percentage of lone parent families was higher in urban areas than in rural areas while rural areas had the highest proportion of couple families with dependent children;
- incomes were generally higher in urban families than rural families (geographic location is an important factor in finding employment, and the type of employment obtained); and
- only 1 in 15 people in rural areas were in either a group or lone person household, compared to 1 in 10 people in the cities.

## The rural family

**Chart 9.3 The rural family, NSW, 1991**



Source: 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1)

### *Couple families*

In rural NSW, couple families made up 90% of all families. Couples with dependent children were the predominant family type, accounting for nearly 50% of all families. Around 30% of families were couples only, of which 10% were in a de facto marriage.

### *Lone parent families*

Lone parent families constituted only 9% of families (compared to 14% of urban families). Lone parent families with dependants constituted only 6% of all families. There were 19,478 dependent children in these lone parent families.

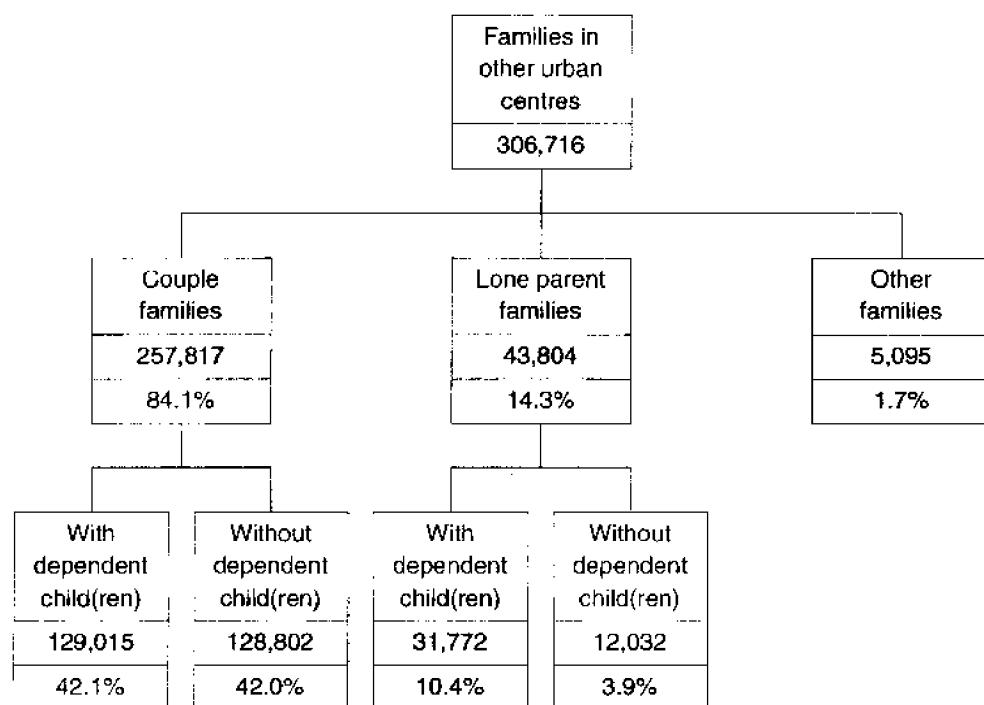
### *Other households*

There were 35,396 people (5% of the rural population) in lone person households, with 35% aged 65 years and over. A total of 10,923 people lived in group households, of which 70% were aged between 15 and 44 years.

## Urban and rural families

### The urban family: Other urban centres

**Chart 9.2 The urban family: Other urban centres (a), NSW, 1991**



(a) Urban centres with 1,000 to 99,999 people.  
*Source: 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1)*

#### *Couple families*

In the smaller cities and towns in NSW, couple families represented 84% of all families in 1991, with equal proportions of couples with and without dependent child(ren) (42% each). One third of families consisted of couples only, of which 10% were in a de facto marriage.

#### *Lone parent families*

Lone parent families constituted over 14% of families, with lone parents with dependants making up 10% of all families. There were 54,752 dependent children in 31,772 lone parent families.

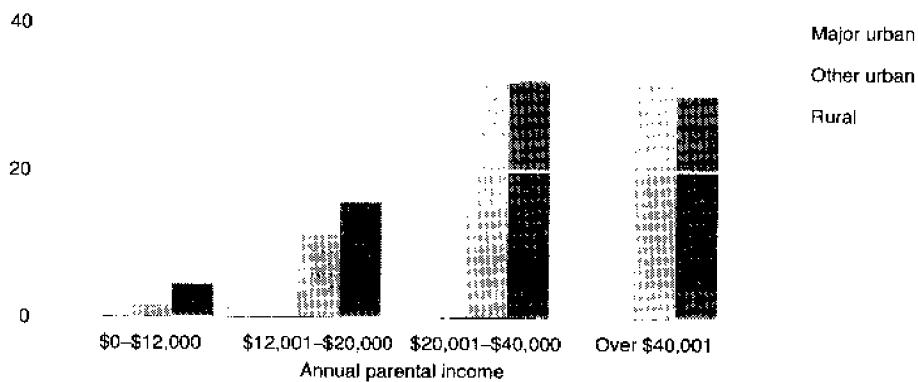
#### *Other households*

There were 87,679 people (7% of the population in other urban centres) living alone, of which 48% were aged 65 years and over. Of the 31,577 people in group households, 78% were aged between 15 and 44 years.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Graph 9.1 Parental income: Couple families with dependent child(ren), NSW, 1991**

Per cent  
60

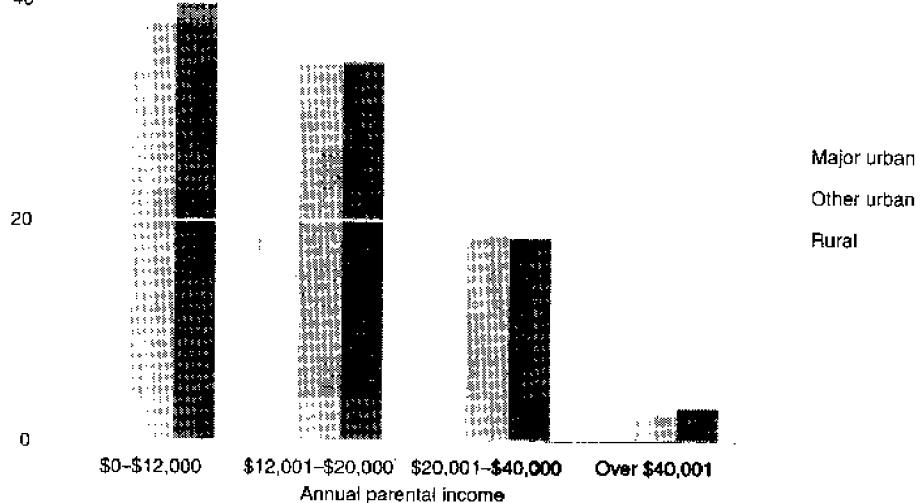


Source: 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1)

Similarly, for lone parents with dependants, parental incomes in rural families were generally lower than in urban families. Parental income was less than \$12,001 in 40% of rural families, compared to around 36% of urban families (see Appendix Table A9.1).

**Graph 9.2 Parental income: Lone parent families with dependent child(ren), NSW, 1991**

Per cent  
40



Source: 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1)

## Urban and rural families



## Income

Incomes were generally higher in the large cities than in the rest of NSW. The median family income was \$40,001-\$50,000 in the cities of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong compared to \$25,001-\$30,000 in both the smaller cities and towns and in rural areas.

Of all couple families with dependent children, nearly 5% of rural parents received a combined income of less than \$12,001 compared to less than 2% in urban areas. Over 15% of rural parents had incomes of \$12,001 to \$20,000 compared to 8% in major urban areas and 11% in other urban areas.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A1.2 Household type, NSW, 1992**

Household type	Households		Persons	
	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion
	'000	per cent	'000	per cent
One family	1,539.2	72.1	4,982.8	84.8
One family and unrelated individual(s) (a)	21.7	1.0	81.1	1.4
Related families (and unrelated individual(s))	26.3	1.2	151.0	2.6
Unrelated families (and unrelated individual(s))	**2.2	**0.1	12.1	0.2
One person	469.2	22.0	469.2	8.0
Unrelated individuals	76.7	3.6	177.1	3.0
<b>Total households</b>	<b>2,135.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,873.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Included in the one family household type in the diagram at the beginning of Chapter 1.

Source: 1992 Family Survey

**Table A1.3 Position in family/household, NSW, 1992**

Position in family/household	Number		Proportion	
	'000	per cent	'000	per cent
Partner in registered married couple	2,642.9	45.0		
Partner in de facto married couple	209.7	3.6		
Lone parent	222.6	3.8		
Dependent natural, adopted or foster child of lone parent/both members of couple	1,522.1	25.9		
Dependent step child of lone parent/one member of couple	64.3	1.1		
Otherwise related dependent child of lone parent/both members of couple	*8.6	*0.1		
Non-dependent natural, adopted or foster child of lone parent/both members of couple	395.8	6.7		
Non-dependent step child of lone parent/one member of couple	36.0	0.6		
Lone ancestor	32.5	0.6		
Other related individual	65.3	1.1		
Unrelated individual living in family household	26.6	0.5		
Unrelated individual living in unrelated individuals household	177.1	3.0		
Person living alone	469.2	8.0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,873.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>		

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

**Table A1.4 Non-family household members, NSW, 1992**

Non-family household type	Age group (years)						Total
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	
	'000						
Group households	71.8	61.7	14.4	13.0	*6.5	*9.6	177.1
Lone person households	24.6	60.0	49.5	62.8	71.3	201.0	469.2
<b>Total non-family members</b>	<b>96.4</b>	<b>121.7</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>210.6</b>	<b>646.3</b>

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

# Appendix

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**Table A1.1 Family type, NSW, 1992**

Family type	Number	Proportion
		'000
<b>Couple families—</b>		
With dependants	691.2	42.7
With dependants only (a)	606.2	37.5
With dependent child(ren) only	588.3	36.3
With dependent child(ren) and related individual(s)	17.9	1.1
With dependants and non-dependants	85.0	5.2
With dependent and non-dependent children	81.5	5.0
With dependent and non-dependent children and related individual(s)	*3.5	*0.2
Without dependants	694.4	42.9
Couple only	535.1	33.1
With non-dependent child(ren) only	142.6	8.8
With non-dependent child(ren) and related individual(s)	**2.4	**0.1
With related individual(s) only	14.4	0.9
<i>Total couple families</i>	<i>1,385.6</i>	<i>85.6</i>
<b>Lone parent families—</b>		
Male lone parent	34.5	2.1
With dependants	22.5	1.4
With dependent child(ren) only	16.9	1.0
With dependent child(ren) and related individual(s)	**1.7	**0.1
With dependent and non-dependent children	*4.0	*0.2
With dependent child(ren), non-dependent child(ren) and related individuals	..	..
Without dependants	12.0	0.7
With non-dependent child(ren) only	11.4	0.7
With non-dependent child(ren) and related individual(s)	**0.6	**0.0
Female lone parents	179.1	11.1
With dependants	126.8	7.8
With dependent child(ren) only	98.0	6.1
With dependent child(ren) and related individual(s)	*9.5	*0.6
With dependent and non-dependent children	19.3	1.2
With dependent child(ren), non-dependent child(ren) and related individuals	..	..
Without dependants	52.3	3.2
With non-dependent child(ren) only	50.6	3.1
With non-dependent child(ren) and related individual(s)	**1.7	**0.1
<i>Total lone parent families</i>	<i>213.6</i>	<i>13.2</i>
With dependants	149.3	9.2
Without dependants	64.3	4.0
Other family	19.4	1.2
<b>Total families</b>	<b>1,618.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes related individual(s).

Source: 1992 Family Survey

## Appendix

**Table A1.5 Lone parent families, NSW, 1992**

<i>Lone families</i>	<i>Age group (years)</i>						<i>Total</i>
	<i>15-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35-44</i>	<i>45-54</i>	<i>55-64</i>	<i>65 and over</i>	
—'000—							
Male lone parents	<b>**1.8</b>	<b>*4.7</b>	<b>*8.9</b>	<b>*8.8</b>	<b>*5.1</b>	<b>*5.2</b>	<b>34.5</b>
Female lone parents	16.9	41.7	53.5	25.9	17.7	23.4	179.1
<b>Total lone parent families</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>213.6</b>

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

**Table A1.6 Family and household type, NSW, 1982**

<i>Family/household type</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Proportion</i>
<b>FAMILIES</b>		
	'000	per cent of families
Couple family—		
Couple only	465.6	32.3
With dependants only	543.2	37.6
With dependants and non-dependants	102.6	7.1
With non-dependants only	150.6	10.4
<b>Total couple families</b>	<b>1,262.2</b>	<b>87.4</b>
Lone parent family—		
With dependants only	79.6	5.5
Other lone parent families (a)	22.6	1.6
<b>Total lone parent families</b>	<b>102.3</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Other family (b)	79.2	5.5
<b>Total families</b>	<b>1,443.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>PERSONS</b>		
	'000	per cent of population
Non-family members—		
Living with a family	30.3	0.6
Living alone	373.2	7.2
Not living alone	163.5	3.1
<b>Total non-family members</b>	<b>567.1</b>	<b>10.9</b>

(a) Includes lone parent families with dependent and non-dependent offspring and other related individuals. (b) Other family includes a lone parent with non-dependent offspring only with or without other related individuals and other related people.

Source: 1982 Family Survey

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A1.7 Children aged 0–14 years, NSW, 1992**

Family type	Age (years)			
	0–4	5–9	10–14	0–14
—'000—				
Natural, adopted or foster child	433.0	421.5	392.3	1,246.9
Couple family	375.6	361.0	322.0	1,058.7
Lone parent family	57.4	60.5	70.3	188.2
Step child	**0.5	12.1	28.2	40.8
Couple family	*0.5	12.1	28.2	40.8
Total couple family	376.1	373.1	350.3	1,099.4
Total lone parent family	57.4	60.5	70.3	188.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>433.5</b>	<b>433.6</b>	<b>420.6</b>	<b>1,287.6</b>

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

**Table A1.8 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population and NSW population, NSW, 1991**

Age (years)	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population			NSW population		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
0–4	5,454	5,217	10,671	219,313	207,740	427,053
5–14	8,825	8,349	17,174	428,857	407,140	835,997
15–24	7,289	7,431	14,720	447,244	431,611	878,855
25–34	5,386	5,926	11,312	460,820	461,824	922,644
35–44	3,622	3,992	7,614	429,977	428,956	858,933
45–54	2,226	2,231	4,457	319,537	307,261	626,798
55–64	1,166	1,322	2,488	249,860	250,755	500,615
65 and over	692	891	1,583	289,640	391,539	681,179
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,660</b>	<b>35,359</b>	<b>70,019</b>	<b>2,845,248</b>	<b>2,886,826</b>	<b>5,732,074</b>

Source: 1991 Census Aboriginal Community Profile and 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1).

**Table A1.9 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population: labour force status, NSW, 1991**

Labour force status	Age (years)							Total
	15–19	20–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65 or more	
<b>Employed—</b>								
Full-time (a)	886	1,701	3,011	2,325	1,231	331	32	9,517
Part-time	579	655	1,365	998	500	131	23	4,251
<i>Total employed (b)</i>	<i>1,646</i>	<i>2,539</i>	<i>4,695</i>	<i>3,606</i>	<i>1,851</i>	<i>506</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>14,915</i>
Total unemployed	1,807	2,024	2,431	1,208	529	197	34	8,230
Total labour force	3,453	4,563	7,126	4,814	2,380	703	106	23,145
Not in labour force	3,955	2,324	3,754	2,498	1,856	1,645	1,475	17,507
<b>Total (c)</b>	<b>7,609</b>	<b>7,111</b>	<b>11,312</b>	<b>7,614</b>	<b>4,455</b>	<b>2,484</b>	<b>1,581</b>	<b>42,166</b>

(a) Full-time is defined as having worked 35 hours or more in the main job held last week. (b) Includes employed persons who did not state their hours worked. (c) Includes persons who did not state their labour force status.

Source: 1991 Census Aboriginal Community Profile (2722.1)

## Appendix

**Table A2.1 Marital status (a), NSW, 1992**

Age (years)	<i>Married</i>				<i>Total</i>	<i>Widowed</i>	<i>Divorced</i>	<i>Separated</i>	<i>Total</i>					
	<i>Never married (b)</i>	<i>Registered marriage</i>	<i>De facto marriage</i>	<i>Total</i>										
—'000—														
MALES														
15–24	403.1	34.1	18.8	53.0	..	..	**0.8	456.8						
25–34	144.3	255.8	44.6	300.4	..	*9.5	15.7	469.9						
35–44	34.6	348.7	23.4	372.1	**2.4	29.8	14.3	453.1						
45–54	13.8	272.4	15.3	287.6	**1.6	30.4	16.1	349.5						
55–64	19.7	211.8	**2.9	214.7	*8.9	11.9	*3.9	259.0						
65–74	*10.1	167.1	**1.1	168.2	17.8	*7.1	**2.1	205.2						
75 and over	*6.6	52.3	**0.6	52.8	20.5	**3.2	**0.6	83.7						
<i>Total</i>	<b>632.2</b>	<b>1,342.1</b>	<b>106.6</b>	<b>1,448.7</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>91.9</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>2,277.2</b>						
FEMALES														
15–24	339.3	65.5	30.7	96.2	..	**1.4	**2.0	439.0						
25–34	73.9	306.5	39.2	345.7	**1.0	24.1	23.0	467.7						
35–44	12.3	337.7	20.7	358.4	**2.7	49.0	22.6	445.0						
45–54	*3.1	247.3	*10.9	258.2	16.0	41.6	11.9	330.8						
55–64	*10.9	181.8	**0.5	182.2	42.6	18.5	**2.2	256.4						
65–74	12.4	127.1	**0.6	127.7	71.8	11.1	*4.0	227.1						
75 and over	*6.8	34.9	**0.6	35.5	92.3	*4.2	**1.2	139.9						
<i>Total</i>	<b>458.8</b>	<b>1,300.8</b>	<b>103.1</b>	<b>1,403.9</b>	<b>226.4</b>	<b>149.9</b>	<b>66.8</b>	<b>2,305.9</b>						
PERSONS														
15–24	742.5	99.7	49.5	149.2	..	**1.4	**2.8	895.8						
25–34	218.2	562.3	83.8	646.1	**1.0	33.6	38.7	937.6						
35–44	46.9	686.4	44.0	730.4	*5.1	78.9	36.9	898.2						
45–54	16.9	519.7	26.1	545.8	17.6	72.0	27.9	680.3						
55–64	30.6	393.5	*3.3	396.9	51.5	30.4	*6.0	515.4						
65–74	22.6	294.2	**1.7	295.9	89.6	18.2	*6.1	432.2						
75 and over	13.4	87.1	**1.2	88.3	112.8	*7.4	**1.7	223.6						
<i>Total</i>	<b>1,090.9</b>	<b>2,642.9</b>	<b>209.7</b>	<b>2,852.6</b>	<b>277.6</b>	<b>241.9</b>	<b>120.1</b>	<b>4,583.1</b>						

(a) People aged 15 years and over. (b) Excludes people who are in a de facto marriage.

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A3.1 Full-time students (a) by category of school and year of education, NSW, 1993**

Year of education	Govern- ment schools	Non-government schools				All schools		
		Anglican	Catholic	Other	Total	Males	Females	Persons
<b>Primary—</b>								
Kindergarten	63,776	747	17,063	3,582	21,392	43,412	41,756	85,168
Year 1	64,876	751	17,133	3,605	21,489	44,362	42,003	86,365
Year 2	63,259	781	17,295	3,593	21,669	43,468	41,460	84,928
Year 3	62,604	1,004	17,292	3,661	21,957	43,072	41,489	84,561
Year 4	62,046	1,083	17,041	3,628	21,752	42,767	41,031	83,798
Year 5	62,283	1,487	17,332	4,012	22,831	43,435	41,679	85,114
Year 6	60,985	1,468	17,299	3,965	22,732	42,867	40,850	83,717
Ungraded	7,082	14	115	682	811	4,996	2,897	7,893
<i>Total primary</i>	<i>446,911</i>	<i>7,335</i>	<i>120,570</i>	<i>26,728</i>	<i>154,633</i>	<i>308,379</i>	<i>293,165</i>	<i>601,544</i>
<b>Secondary—</b>								
Year 7	56,842	2,523	17,557	4,872	24,952	41,973	39,821	81,794
Year 8	55,089	2,532	17,346	4,660	24,538	40,902	38,725	79,627
Year 9	55,027	2,627	17,059	4,642	24,328	40,366	38,989	79,355
Year 10	53,217	2,712	16,794	4,697	24,203	39,246	38,174	77,420
Year 11	45,706	2,791	14,077	4,412	21,280	32,800	34,186	66,986
Year 12	38,085	2,590	12,988	4,075	19,653	27,605	30,133	57,738
Ungraded	7,098	25	207	302	534	4,660	2,972	7,632
<i>Total secondary</i>	<i>311,064</i>	<i>15,800</i>	<i>96,028</i>	<i>27,660</i>	<i>139,488</i>	<i>227,552</i>	<i>223,000</i>	<i>450,552</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>757,975</b>	<b>23,135</b>	<b>216,598</b>	<b>54,388</b>	<b>294,121</b>	<b>535,931</b>	<b>516,165</b>	<b>1,052,096</b>

(a) Students attending special schools have been allocated to either primary or secondary level of education.

Source: *Schools, Australia, 1993, Preliminary* (4220.0)

**Table A3.2 Schools: Apparent retention rates of Year 7 students to Year 12, NSW**

Year	Males	Females	Persons	
			—per cent—	
1983		35.2	39.9	37.5
1984		39.6	43.3	41.4
1985		39.5	43.9	41.7
1986		42.4	46.6	44.4
1987		44.6	49.8	47.1
1988		48.0	54.8	51.3
1989		50.7	58.1	54.4
1990		52.0	61.9	56.8
1991		56.6	66.4	61.4
1992		64.0	73.3	68.5
1993		66.3	75.0	70.6

Source: *National Schools Statistics Collection*

## Appendix

**Table A3.3 Type of tertiary institution attended by persons aged 15 to 24 years, NSW**

Year	<i>Educational institution</i>			<i>Total</i>	
	<i>Technical college/TAFE</i>	<i>Higher education</i>	<i>Other educational institution</i>		
—'000—					
MALES					
1988	55.5	41.8	5.3	102.3	
1989	65.4	39.7	6.3	111.4	
1990	58.4	44.9	6.4	109.7	
1991	64.4	53.4	3.3	121.1	
1992	64.4	47.9	8.4	120.7	
<i>Full-time</i>	16.1	36.4	*4.4	56.9	
<i>Part-time</i>	48.3	11.5	*4.0	63.8	
FEMALES					
1988	32.7	33.8	10.4	76.9	
1989	32.8	46.1	9.6	88.5	
1990	35.4	45.6	10.8	91.9	
1991	37.2	48.8	10.0	96.0	
1992	35.1	55.3	9.4	99.8	
<i>Full-time</i>	15.1	50.1	*5.3	70.4	
<i>Part-time</i>	20.0	*5.2	*4.2	29.4	
PERSONS					
1988	87.9	75.6	15.7	179.2	
1989	98.2	85.8	15.9	199.9	
1990	93.8	90.5	17.2	201.6	
1991	101.6	102.2	13.3	217.0	
1992	99.5	103.2	17.8	220.5	
<i>Full-time</i>	31.2	86.5	9.6	127.3	
<i>Part-time</i>	68.3	16.8	8.1	93.2	

Source: Survey of Participation in Education (previously known as Survey of Labour force status and Educational attendance)

**Table A4.1 Employment of partners in couple families, NSW, June 1993**

<i>Employment status</i>	<i>With dependants</i>	<i>Without dependants</i>	<i>Total</i>
Both employed	352.0	236.1	588.1
<i>Husband employed, wife not employed</i>	224.7	93.8	318.5
Husband employed, wife unemployed	17.0	7.4	24.3
Husband employed, wife not in the labour force	207.7	86.4	294.1
<i>Wife employed, husband not employed</i>	19.7	24.6	44.3
Wife employed, husband unemployed	8.6	8.0	16.6
Wife employed, husband not in the labour force	11.1	16.6	27.7
<i>Neither partner employed</i>	79.3	275.5	354.8
Husband unemployed, wife unemployed	9.6	*5.2	14.8
Husband unemployed, wife not in the labour force	35.7	13.5	49.2
Husband not in the labour force, wife unemployed	**1.7	**1.9	*3.6
Both husband and wife not in the labour force	32.3	254.9	287.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>675.7</b>	<b>630.0</b>	<b>1,305.7</b>

Source: Labour Force Survey

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A4.2 Couple families: Full-time employment of parents, NSW, June 1993**

	<i>Husband employed full-time</i>	<i>Wife employed full-time</i>	<i>Total couple families</i>
—'000—			
Age of youngest dependant—			
0-4	231.5	50.5	289.7
5-9	122.6	36.2	148.1
10-14	111.6	41.4	134.7
15-24	84.7	39.3	103.1
Total with dependants	550.4	167.4	675.7
Without dependants	301.4	181.8	630.0
<b>Total couple families</b>	<b>851.8</b>	<b>349.2</b>	<b>1,305.7</b>

Source: Labour Force Survey

**Table A4.3 Labour force status of young people aged 15-24, NSW, June 1993**

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
—'000—			
15-19 YEARS			
<i>Employed</i>	90.6	85.1	175.7
Full-time	53.1	28.3	81.4
Part-time	37.6	56.8	94.3
<i>Unemployed</i>	20.8	24.9	45.7
Looking for full-time work	13.3	17.5	30.9
Looking for part-time work	7.5	7.4	14.8
In the labour force	111.5	110.0	221.4
Not in the labour force	106.7	99.6	206.3
Unemployment rate	18.7	22.6	20.6
Participation rate	51.1	52.5	51.8
20-24 YEARS			
<i>Employed</i>	169.5	153.2	322.7
Full-time	142.7	110.8	253.5
Part-time	26.7	42.4	69.2
<i>Unemployed</i>	36.2	17.9	54.0
Looking for full-time work	33.8	15.5	49.3
Looking for part-time work	**2.4	**2.3	*4.7
In the labour force	205.6	171.1	376.7
Not in the labour force	32.4	61.7	94.1
Unemployment rate	17.6	10.4	14.3
Participation rate	86.4	73.5	80.0

Source: Labour Force Survey

## Appendix

**Table A5.1 Weekly family income, NSW, 1992**

Gross weekly family income	<i>Couple family</i>		<i>Lone parent family</i>		Other family	Total
	With dependants	Without dependants	With dependants	Without dependants		
—'000—						
\$1–225	17.4	27.4	26.4	**1.7	..	73.0
\$226–369	46.1	159.6	51.7	12.2	5.2	274.9
\$370–425	30.9	27.6	12.0	*5.0	**1.8	77.4
\$426–500	39.2	40.4	*10.3	*4.0	**1.2	95.1
\$501–600	59.0	50.3	*10.6	*4.0	**0.6	124.5
\$601–700	56.2	29.5	*5.1	*5.2	**0.6	96.5
\$701–800	57.4	34.0	*4.5	*7.1	**2.5	105.4
\$801–900	57.2	35.1	*6.1	*4.1	..	102.4
\$901–1,000	45.5	42.4	*4.9	*4.1	**0.6	97.4
\$1,001–1,100	43.8	29.9	*3.4	**2.5	**1.2	80.8
\$1,101–1,200	33.6	23.5	**2.4	*3.5	**0.6	63.6
\$1,201–1,300	31.7	26.3	**1.1	**1.2	**0.5	60.8
\$1,301 and over	128.3	117.8	*4.2	*6.3	*2.3	258.9
Not stated/not known	40.2	42.4	*5.1	*3.4	**2.3	93.4
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>691.2</b>	<b>694.4</b>	<b>149.3</b>	<b>64.3</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>1,618.6</b>

(a) Includes families with negative income.

Source: 1992 Family Survey

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A5.2 Department of Social Security pensions and benefits, NSW, at 30 June 1992**

Pension or benefit	Number	Amount paid (\$'000) (a)(b)
Age pensions—		
Number of age pensions—		
Males	154,007	
Females	347,692	
Total	501,699	
Wife/carer pensions	11,630	
Total pensions	513,329	3,513,996
Disability support—		
Number of disability support pensions—		
Males	93,987	
Females	35,579	
Total	129,566	
Wife/carer pensions	36,518	
Total pensions	166,084	1,238,928
Rehabilitation allowance	616	9,075
Sickness allowance (c)	14,856	157,806
Mobility allowance (d)	4,289	3,662
Child disability allowance—		
Number of disabled children	16,142	32,189
Family allowance (e)—		
Number of children and students in families	1,222,820	
Number of families	634,173	795,814
Family allowance support (f)—		
Number of eligible dependent children	164,362	
Sole mothers	7,149	
Sole fathers	936	
Married couples	62,458	
Total	70,543	221,449
Double orphan pension—		
Number of orphans	639	
Number of guardians	505	605
Sole parent pension—		
Male	5,376	
Female	92,531	
Total	97,907	1,079,178
Special benefit (c)	14,107	132,143
Class B widow pension	25,770	215,475
Widowed person allowance	117	190
Job Search allowance (c)	170,031	1,442,641
Newstart allowance (c)	104,941	787,711
Total allowances (c)	274,972	2,230,352

(a) ACT expenditure included in NSW. (b) Depending on circumstance, can include the supplementary payments comprising the guardian allowance, additional pension for children, rent assistance, bereavement allowance, remote area allowance and incentive allowance. (c) Current June monthly average number. (d) Both number and amount paid includes ACT. (e) From 1 January 1993 known as the Basic Family Payment. (f) From 1 January 1993 known as the Additional Family Payment.

Source: Department of Social Security Annual Report, 1992

## Appendix

**Table A5.3 Average weekly household expenditure (a): Household type, NSW, 1988–89**

Broad level expenditure items	Household composition									Total
	Couples with dependants	Couples without dependants	Lone parents with dependants	Lone parents without dependants	Total family households	Non-family members	Lone person households	Group household		
	—\$—									
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	103.75	60.13	77.84	75.91	82.92	66.98	53.09	131.51	79.10	
Fuel and power	15.26	11.68	10.70	10.33	13.24	7.51	6.82	10.75	11.86	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	130.56	96.66	80.64	88.79	111.25	58.27	45.04	119.73	98.53	
Alcoholic beverages	17.31	18.86	9.14	19.10	17.43	14.89	8.74	43.50	16.82	
Tobacco	7.42	7.33	5.93	10.21	7.58	5.00	3.66	11.25	6.96	
Clothing and footwear	43.95	32.60	26.96	37.58	38.11	17.20	12.12	40.83	33.10	
Household furnishings and equipment*	48.86	41.67	26.66	31.86	43.26	28.78	23.32	54.11	39.79	
Household services and operation	33.81	21.92	23.46	22.62	27.78	15.72	14.29	22.38	24.88	
Medical care and health expenses	29.38	25.82	12.16	14.66	25.78	14.71	13.10	22.20	23.12	
Transport	91.32	85.27	63.35	80.38	87.42	48.37	40.68	84.11	78.05	
Recreation	81.63	59.89	49.50	49.97	68.95	43.88	33.90	90.28	62.93	
Personal care	13.22	10.97	8.56	9.82	11.74	6.95	5.22	15.01	10.59	
Miscellaneous commodities and services	54.60	29.78	37.53	32.37	42.30	20.44	14.28	49.06	37.06	
<b>Total commodity and service expenditure</b>	<b>671.05</b>	<b>502.58</b>	<b>432.44</b>	<b>483.59</b>	<b>577.74</b>	<b>348.72</b>	<b>274.25</b>	<b>694.71</b>	<b>522.80</b>	
Selected other payments—										
Income tax	183.79	149.80	51.79	83.32	155.75	73.60	55.65	157.00	136.04	
Mortgage payments—principal*	14.39	6.20	1.45	1.22	9.37	2.25	2.35	1.82	7.67	
Other capital housing costs**	48.97	34.51	44.43	11.56	40.42	22.49	25.79	7.12	36.12	
Superannuation and life insurance	22.64	15.21	8.19	8.68	17.86	9.43	8.13	15.48	15.84	
Household characteristics—										
Average weekly household income (\$)	833.51	683.02	416.13	571.10	731.06	401.16	307.84	834.76	651.95	
Average number of persons in household	4.2	2.3	3.0	2.3	3.3	1.2	1.0	2.2	2.8	
Average age of household head (years)	39	56	39	55	47	51	55	32	48	

(a) Average per household.

\* At least one estimate in the row has a relative standard error (RSE) greater than 25%.

\*\* All the estimates in the row have RSEs greater than 25%.

Source: 1988–89 Household Expenditure Survey

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A5.4 Average weekly household expenditure (a): Selected household groups, NSW, 1988–89**

Broad level expenditure items	Household composition				Income level		
	Male lone person	Female lone person	Female lone parents	Couples with two dependants	Low income house- holds(a)	High income house- holds(b)	Total
\$							
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	69.88	40.57	78.39	109.81	41.28	117.72	79.10
Fuel and power	6.45	7.09	10.74	14.80	8.04	15.53	11.86
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	52.83	39.23	76.00	123.73	52.77	149.51	98.53
Alcoholic beverages	16.14	3.22	6.99	16.79	8.01	29.51	16.82
Tobacco	5.46	2.31	5.11	6.28	4.36	7.27	6.96
Clothing and footwear	12.08	12.15	27.48	35.06	12.76	66.27	33.10
Household furnishings and equipment*	25.27	21.87	25.20	40.97	16.01	77.78	39.79
Household services and operation	13.31	15.02	22.13	33.79	15.49	37.85	24.88
Medical care and health expenses	9.64	15.68	11.42	28.75	12.65	37.25	23.12
Transport	64.86	22.65	61.13	81.15	32.70	137.09	78.05
Recreation	43.20	26.96	40.13	76.28	27.93	117.26	62.93
Personal care	2.85	6.99	8.70	11.48	5.71	17.71	10.59
Miscellaneous commodities and services	16.32	12.76	31.57	50.23	12.25	69.14	37.06
<b>Total commodity and service expenditure</b>	<b>338.28</b>	<b>226.49</b>	<b>404.99</b>	<b>629.10</b>	<b>249.98</b>	<b>879.89</b>	<b>522.80</b>
Selected other payments—							
Income tax	80.38	37.20	43.38	170.97	14.78	352.83	136.04
Mortgage payments—principal*	3.77	1.29	1.20	15.33	0.64	13.76	7.67
Other capital housing costs**	33.14	20.32	54.43	13.43	18.46	80.36	36.12
Superannuation and life insurance	10.32	6.50	6.46	23.27	1.32	36.11	15.84
Household characteristics—							
Average weekly household income (\$)	389.12	247.22	382.10	784.01	146.21	1,453.20	651.95
Average number of persons in household	1.0	1.0	3.0	4.0	1.7	3.6	2.8
Average age of household head (years)	47	61	39	38	60	44	48

(a) Low income households are those earning less than \$225 per week. (b) High income households are those earning more than \$970 per week.

\* At least one estimate in the row has a relative standard error (RSE) greater than 25%.

\*\* All the estimates in the row have RSEs greater than 25%.

Source: 1988–89 Household Expenditure Survey

## Appendix

**Table A6.1 Whether received free accommodation (a) from parents, NSW, 1992**

	Not studying			Studying			Total	
	Received free accom- modation	Proportion received free accom- modation		Received free accom- modation	Proportion received free accom- modation		Received free accom- modation	Proportion received free accom- modation
		Total	per cent		Total	per cent		Total
	'000	'000		'000	'000		'000	'000
Employment status by age—								
Employed—								
15–19	24.1	66.1	36.5	31.8	59.4	53.6	55.9	125.5
20–24	39.7	253.0	15.7	34.2	84.0	40.7	73.8	337.1
25–29	13.2	274.9	4.8	*4.1	48.0	*8.6	17.4	322.9
30–34	*7.9	315.4	*2.5	**1.1	44.5	**2.6	*9.1	359.9
35 and over	*7.7	1,357.8	*0.6	**0.6	94.7	**0.6	*8.2	1,452.5
Total	92.6	2,267.3	4.1	71.8	330.7	21.7	164.5	2,598.0
Unemployed—								
15–19	12.6	29.8	42.3	*9.5	17.0	*56.0	22.1	46.7
20–24	*8.2	40.8	*20.1	**2.9	*5.7	**50.5	*11.1	46.5
25–29	**1.2	36.1	**3.4	..	*3.3	**	**1.2	39.4
30–34	**0.6	33.3	**1.7	**0.6	*6.6	**8.7	**1.1	39.9
35 and over	**0.6	121.6	**0.5	**0.5	11.7	**4.5	**1.1	133.3
Total	23.2	261.5	8.9	13.5	44.2	30.4	36.7	305.7
Not in the labour force—								
15–19	*5.5	13.5	*40.9	27.5	35.4	77.7	33.0	48.9
20–24	*4.9	44.1	*11.1	11.1	28.9	38.3	16.0	73.1
25–29	**1.7	73.4	**2.3	**0.5	13.0	**4.0	**2.2	86.3
30–34	**1.2	83.4	**1.5	..	*5.8	**	**1.2	89.2
35 and over	*4.7	1,133.8	*0.4	**0.7	30.1	**2.2	*5.4	1,163.9
Total	18.1	1,348.2	1.3	39.8	113.1	35.2	57.8	1,461.3
Age—								
15–19	42.2	109.4	38.6	68.8	111.7	61.6	111.0	221.1
20–24	52.7	338.0	15.6	48.1	118.6	40.6	100.9	456.6
25–29	16.2	384.3	4.2	*4.7	64.3	*7.2	20.8	448.6
30–34	*9.7	432.1	*2.3	**1.7	56.8	**3.0	11.5	489.0
35 and over	13.0	2,613.2	0.5	**1.7	136.5	**1.3	14.8	2,749.7
Sex—								
Males	80.6	1,927.9	4.2	68.4	247.7	27.6	149.0	2,175.5
Females	53.3	1,949.1	2.7	56.7	240.4	23.6	110.0	2,189.5
Lived with a parent—								
Yes	127.9	384.2	33.3	120.4	182.1	66.1	248.2	566.2
No	*6.1	3,492.8	*0.2	*4.7	306.0	*1.5	*10.8	3,798.8
Total	133.9	3,877.0	3.5	125.1	488.0	25.6	259.0	4,365.0
								5.9

(a) People aged 15 years and over who were not attending school.

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A6.2 Main reason moved from last usual residence (a), NSW, 1992**

Main reason moved from last residence	Number of times moved (b)					Total
	None	One	Two	Three or more		
—'000—						
<i>Did not move</i>	2,514.4	..	..	..	..	2,514.4
<b>Moved—</b>						
Family reasons—						
Got married	..	64.2	15.8	17.6	97.6	
Began living with de facto marriage partner	..	24.7	*5.7	13.9	44.4	
Separated from partner	..	30.9	17.3	19.9	68.1	
Other family conflict	..	*8.1	*3.9	*10.7	22.7	
To be independent	..	39.1	25.0	27.5	91.6	
To be with or near family	..	149.8	46.8	74.1	270.7	
<i>Total family reasons</i>	..	317.0	114.5	163.6	595.0	
Non-family reasons—						
Employment reasons	..	73.5	40.5	72.3	186.2	
Education reasons	..	18.7	*4.7	12.9	36.3	
To lower housing costs	..	52.1	37.9	64.3	154.3	
To move to a better area	..	144.5	36.5	50.5	231.6	
Dwelling structure unsatisfactory	..	123.9	43.2	63.2	230.3	
Landlord request	..	28.2	13.7	51.4	93.3	
Became homebuyer/homeowner	..	168.0	66.2	99.4	333.6	
Other	..	109.4	37.9	60.6	207.9	
<i>Total non-family reasons</i>	..	718.3	280.7	474.6	1,473.6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,514.4</b>	<b>1,035.3</b>	<b>395.2</b>	<b>638.2</b>	<b>4,583.1</b>	

(a) People aged 15 years and over. (b) Since 1 January 1987.

Source: 1992 Family Survey.

**Table A7.1 Handicap and disability status by age, NSW, 1993**

Age group (years)	Disability					Total
	Handicap	No handicap	Total	No disability		
—'000—						
0-4	17.0	..	17.0	423.8	440.8	
5-14	52.8	13.4	66.2	782.2	848.3	
15-24	44.2	14.5	58.7	852.0	910.7	
25-34	50.8	28.3	79.1	878.8	957.8	
35-44	70.1	35.9	106.0	790.7	896.7	
45-54	93.9	32.2	126.0	571.4	697.4	
55-59	60.5	14.8	75.3	188.5	263.8	
60-64	70.3	19.8	90.1	164.0	254.1	
65-69	84.5	14.0	98.5	145.9	244.4	
70-74	89.6	21.5	111.1	86.2	197.3	
75 and over	169.6	18.2	187.8	100.8	288.5	
<i>Males</i>	392.8	125.6	518.3	2,465.3	2,983.6	
<i>Females</i>	410.4	86.9	497.3	2,519.0	3,016.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>803.2</b>	<b>212.5</b>	<b>1,015.6</b>	<b>4,984.3</b>	<b>5,999.9</b>	

Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

## Appendix

**Table A7.2 People aged 15–64 in households: employment status by handicap and disability status, NSW, 1993**

Handicap and disability status	Emp- loyed	Unemp- loyed	Total in the labour force	Not in the labour force	Total	Unemp- loyment rate	Partic- ipation rate
			'000				
MALES							
Disability—							
Handicap	76.4	20.6	97.0	104.3	201.3	21.2	48.2
No handicap	64.7	*9.1	73.8	13.4	87.2	12.3	84.7
No disability	1,337.1	173.6	1,510.7	206.2	1,716.9	11.5	88.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,478.2</i>	<i>203.3</i>	<i>1,681.5</i>	<i>323.9</i>	<i>2,005.4</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>83.9</i>
FEMALES							
Disability—							
Handicap	55.3	15.8	71.1	109.6	180.7	22.2	39.4
No handicap	32.4	*3.2	35.7	21.4	57.1	9.1	62.5
No disability	984.8	134.9	1,119.7	608.3	1,728.0	12.1	64.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,072.5</i>	<i>153.9</i>	<i>1,226.5</i>	<i>739.3</i>	<i>1,965.8</i>	<i>12.6</i>	<i>62.4</i>
PERSONS							
Disability—							
Handicap	131.8	36.4	168.1	213.9	382.0	21.6	44.0
No handicap	97.2	12.3	109.5	34.8	144.3	11.3	75.9
No disability	2,321.8	308.5	2,630.4	814.5	3,444.9	11.7	76.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>2,550.8</i>	<i>357.2</i>	<i>2,908.0</i>	<i>1,063.2</i>	<i>3,971.2</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>73.2</i>

Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

**Table A7.3 Type of personal care/home help (a) received by age, NSW, 1992**

Kind of care received	Age group (years)				Total
	15–54	55–64	65–74	75 and over	
—'000—					
Meals	40.0	*9.9	25.7	36.8	112.4
Housework	51.5	14.1	44.1	61.8	171.6
House repairs/maintenance	19.2	*9.3	23.7	36.2	88.4
Personal care	26.0	*4.2	14.8	25.7	70.6
General nursing care	23.8	*4.6	12.4	24.3	65.1
<b>Total number of services</b>	<b>160.5</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>120.7</b>	<b>184.7</b>	<b>508.1</b>
<b>Total number of recipients</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>226.8</b>
<b>Total population</b>	<b>3,411.9</b>	<b>515.4</b>	<b>432.2</b>	<b>223.6</b>	<b>4,583.1</b>

(a) The total number of services is greater than the number of people helped as each person could receive help with more than one activity.  
Source: 1992 Family Survey

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A7.4 Selected characteristics of all care givers (a), NSW, 1992**

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
—'000—			
Age of provider—			
15–24	20.2	30.2	50.4
25–34	47.1	50.2	97.3
35–44	59.2	65.4	124.6
45–54	38.2	43.2	81.4
55–64	21.0	27.2	48.2
65–74	*10.7	19.2	29.9
75 and over	*4.4	*3.7	*8.0
Number of family members helped—			
One	145.4	187.4	332.9
Two	50.7	40.3	91.0
Three or more	4.5	11.4	16.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>200.7</b>	<b>239.1</b>	<b>439.8</b>

(a) Each carer may have given assistance to more than one family member.

Source: 1992 Family Survey

**Table A7.5 Employed care givers: difficulty managing working and caring, NSW, 1992**

	<i>Difficult</i>	<i>Not difficult</i>	<i>Total</i>
—'000—			
Sex—			
Male	25.2	96.2	121.4
Female	34.6	58.8	93.3
Weekly hours worked—			
Less than 35 hours	20.9	31.7	52.6
35 hours or more	38.8	123.3	162.1
Age—			
15–24	*3.7	19.7	23.4
25–34	12.5	36.1	48.6
35–44	25.6	45.6	71.1
45–54	12.7	40.2	53.0
55–64	*5.2	*10.0	15.2
65 and over	..	*3.5	*3.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>155.0</b>	<b>214.7</b>

Source: 1992 Family Survey

## Appendix

**Table A8.1 Proportion of day spent on main activities (a), NSW, 1992**

Activity (a)	Women								Men			
	Employed		Not employed		Employed		Not employed					
	With children	Without children	With children	Without children	Total	With children	Without children	With children	Without children	Total		
—per cent—												
Labour force (b)	12.6	18.4	*0.3	*0.6	8.1	30.0	26.4	**1.8	1.4	19.2		
Household	25.9	12.7	32.3	19.0	20.3	10.5	7.6	19.9	12.0	10.1		
Domestic	13.5	8.9	16.2	14.2	12.8	5.5	5.4	11.7	8.9	6.7		
Child care	8.3	0.5	11.8	0.9	3.8	3.0	*0.2	5.7	*0.2	1.1		
Shopping	4.1	3.3	4.3	3.9	3.8	1.9	2.0	2.5	2.9	2.3		
Total labour force and household	38.5	31.1	32.5	19.6	28.4	40.4	34.0	21.7	13.4	29.3		
Personal	40.6	42.6	43.2	46.3	43.7	39.4	41.4	46.1	47.4	42.8		
Education	*0.5	2.3	*0.9	2.7	1.9	**0.2	1.3	**2.8	5.1	2.2		
Community	1.8	1.6	1.8	2.4	2.0	1.7	1.4	*6.5	2.0	1.8		
Social and leisure	18.4	22.4	21.4	28.9	23.9	18.2	21.7	22.9	31.8	23.8		
Social	6.6	8.9	7.5	7.9	7.9	4.6	7.3	6.6	7.0	6.5		
Active leisure	2.4	2.9	2.1	4.4	3.3	2.7	3.7	*1.7	5.8	4.0		
Passive leisure	9.3	10.6	11.7	16.6	12.7	11.0	10.6	14.6	19.0	13.3		
All activities (c)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		

(a) People aged 15 years and over. (b) Includes activities carried out in paid employment or unpaid work in a family business or farm, job search activities and related activities such as travel to work. (c) Components may not add to totals due to the omission of undescribed time.

Source: 1992 Time Use Survey

**Table A8.2 Involvement in sport (a), NSW, twelve months ended March 1993**

Family status	Involved in sport	Not involved in sport	Total persons	Participation rate	
				'000	per cent
Member of a family	1,183.8	2,532.2	3,715.9		31.9
Husband or wife	774.7	1,890.0	2,664.7		29.1
With dependants present	450.7	914.5	1,365.2		33.0
Without dependants present	323.9	975.5	1,299.5		24.9
Sole parent	30.0	114.7	144.7		20.7
With children aged 0–14 present	26.2	94.0	120.1		21.8
Without children aged 0–14 present	*3.8	20.8	24.6		*15.6
Full-time student aged 15–24	163.2	112.0	275.3		59.3
Not a member of a family	192.3	487.8	680.1		28.3
Living alone	95.4	320.0	415.5		23.0
Not living alone	96.8	167.8	264.6		36.6
Total (b)	1,450.1	3,168.5	4,618.6		31.4

(a) People aged 15 years and over. (b) Includes other children of married couple or family head, other relative of married couple or family head, other family head and persons in non-private dwellings and visitors to private dwellings.

Source: Survey of Culture and Leisure

## NSW Families: A Profile

**Table A9.1 Families with children: Annual parental income (a), NSW, 1991**

	Annual parental income						<i>Total (b)</i>	
	\$0– \$12,000	\$12,001– \$20,000	\$20,001– \$30,000	\$30,000– \$40,000	\$40,000– \$60,000	Over \$60,000		
—per cent—								
MAJOR URBAN								
Couple families	1.7	10.9	12.2	13.8	26.5	18.3	100.0	
With dependent child(ren)	1.4	8.2	12.0	14.4	27.7	19.8	100.0	
Without dependent child(ren)	3.2	22.1	13.0	11.7	21.7	12.2	100.0	
Lone parent families	42.6	24.1	16.6	7.7	3.6	1.2	100.0	
With dependent child(ren)	34.7	29.2	18.0	8.5	3.9	1.3	100.0	
Without dependent child(ren)	56.8	15.0	14.1	6.4	2.9	1.0	100.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	
OTHER URBAN								
Couple families	1.8	13.6	18.0	16.3	23.4	9.8	100.0	
With dependent child(ren)	1.5	11.3	18.4	17.0	24.5	10.5	100.0	
Without dependent child(ren)	3.2	26.2	16.1	12.4	17.5	5.9	100.0	
Lone parent families	45.7	31.2	12.5	4.5	1.9	0.4	100.0	
With dependent child(ren)	38.0	37.4	13.7	4.9	2.0	0.4	100.0	
Without dependent child(ren)	66.5	14.8	9.1	3.5	1.7	0.4	100.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>	
RURAL								
Couple families	5.1	17.0	17.7	13.6	18.9	10.3	100.0	
With dependent child(ren)	4.5	15.6	18.4	14.1	19.5	10.7	100.0	
Without dependent child(ren)	8.2	24.4	14.3	11.1	15.4	8.2	100.0	
Lone parent families	46.9	27.9	12.3	5.2	2.1	1.1	100.0	
With dependent child(ren)	39.6	34.4	12.8	5.6	2.2	0.8	100.0	
Without dependent child(ren)	62.6	13.8	11.2	4.5	2.0	1.6	100.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

(a) For couple families, refers to the sum of the incomes of both parents. (b) Includes not stated.

Source: 1991 Census Basic Community Profile (2722.1)

# Symbols and general information

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## Symbols and other usages

- \* relative standard error greater than 25% and up to 50%.
- \*\* relative standard error over 50%. Figures should be used with caution.
- .. not applicable.

Estimates may have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

## Reliability of survey estimates

As estimates are based on a sample they are subject to sampling variability. Only estimates with relative standard errors of 25% or less are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. For further information on sampling and non-sampling errors please refer to the relevant survey publications listed on the back cover.

## Inquiries about these statistics

General inquiries about the content and interpretation of ABS statistics in this report can be made to the Manager, Social and Labour Analysis Section, Australian Bureau of Statistics, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001, phone (02) 268 4795, fax (02) 268 4699.

Further information regarding the availability of other family-related data can be obtained from ABS Information (see below for contact details).

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# Glossary

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## Families in NSW

*Blended family* is a couple family containing two or more children, of whom at least one is the natural, adopted or foster child of both members of the couple, and at least one is the step child of at least one member of the couple.

*Couple* refers to two usual residents, both aged at least 15 years, who are either married to each other or living in a de facto marriage with each other.

*Couple with dependants* refers to couples with dependent children, with or without other related individual(s), and dependent and non-dependent children, with or without related individual(s).

*Couple without dependants* refers to couples only, couples with related individual(s), and couples with non-dependent children only, with or without related individual(s).

*Dependants* refers to all family members aged under 15 years or aged 15–19 years attending school or aged 15–24 years attending a tertiary educational institution full-time. It excludes those aged 15 years and over with a spouse or a child usually resident in the household.

*Family* is two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption or fostering, who are usually resident in the same household. A separate family is formed for each couple or for each set of parent-child relationships where only one parent is present.

*Family reference person* refers to the person from whom family relationship is coded on the Census form. It is usually the person designated as 'person 1' on the Census form, however the reference person may be assigned on the basis of age, marital status and relationship considerations if 'person 1' is not the most appropriate reference person. For multiple family households there will be a reference person for each family.

*Group households* comprise two or more unrelated individuals living together, where at least one person is aged 15 years or over.

*Household* is a group of people who usually reside and eat together. Households may be defined as 'family' households, consisting of one or more families (with or without unrelated individuals), or 'non-family' households, consisting of lone person households and group households.

*Lone parent* is defined as a usual resident aged 15 years or older who does not have a resident spouse (i.e. marriage or de facto partner) but has at least one usually resident child (natural, step, adopted, fostered or otherwise related) who does not have a usually resident spouse or child of his/her own.

*Lone parent family* comprises a lone parent and that parent's child(ren) plus all other persons in the household related to them, provided those persons do not have a spouse or child of their own.

*Non-dependant* is defined as a usual resident aged 25 years or older, or aged 15–24 years and not studying full time. He/she must be the child (natural, step, adopted, or foster) of at least one usual resident and must not have a spouse or child usually resident in the household.

*Other families* comprises those where there was no parent/child relationship and no coupling bond, e.g. families of brothers and sisters only.

*Related individual(s)* refers to a usual resident who is related to at least one other usual resident by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption or fostering. He/she must not have a spouse (i.e. marriage or de facto partner) or a child (natural, step, adopted, or foster) usually resident in the household.

*Step family* is defined as a couple family containing one or more children, not one of whom is the natural, adopted or foster child of both members of the couple, and at least one of whom is the step child of either member of the couple.

*Usual resident (UR)* of a private dwelling is that person who has lived in that particular dwelling and regard it as their own or main home.

## **Family history**

*Crude birth rate* is the number of live births per 1,000 of the estimated mean resident population.

*Crude marriage rate* is the number of marriages per 1,000 of the estimated mean resident population.

*Median* value (age, duration or interval) is that value which divides the relevant population into two equal parts, half falling below this value, and half exceeding it. Where the value for a particular record has not been stated, that record is excluded from the calculation.

*Nuptiality* relates to the relative marital status of parents in the births collection. Confinements and births are identified as being nuptial where the registered father was married to the mother at the time of the birth, or where the husband died during the pregnancy. Other confinements, and the children resulting from them, are classified as ex-nuptial whether or not the parents were living together at the time of the birth.

## **Education**

*Apparent retention rate* refers to the percentage of full-time school students of a given cohort group who continued to a particular year of education. It does not take into account students repeating a year of education, migration and other net changes to the school population.

## Glossary

*Education participation rate* refers to the estimate of persons attending an educational institution in any group expressed as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.

*Higher education institution* can be defined as an Australian institution providing higher education courses, e.g. Universities, Institutes of Technology, Institutes of Advanced Education, Institutes of Higher Education, Institutes of Tertiary Education, Agricultural Colleges.

*Other educational institutions* includes business, commercial and secretarial colleges, religious and overseas institutions, and instances where insufficient information was available to determine the type of educational institution.

*Post-school qualifications* are the highest completed qualification attained at any time since leaving school and include bachelor degree or higher, trade qualification/apprenticeship, certificate, or other.

## Employment

*Employed persons* comprise all civilians aged 15 and over who, during the reference week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind (including employees, employers and self-employed persons) in a job or business, or on a farm; or
- (b) worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helpers); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; on strike or locked out; on worker's compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers, self-employed persons or unpaid family helpers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

*Employment status* classifies the civilian population aged 15 and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force (NILF).

*Full time workers* are defined as those employed persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week in all jobs and others who although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

*Labour force* refers to people who are employed or unemployed, as defined.

*Labour force participation rate* for any group is the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

*Labour force status* is the classification of the civilian population aged 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conference of Labour Statisticians.

*Long-term unemployed* comprises persons unemployed for 52 weeks or more.

*Not in the labour force* comprises persons who were not in the categories employed or unemployed, as defined. They include persons who were keeping house (unpaid), retired, voluntarily inactive, permanently unable to work, persons in institutions (hospitals, gaols, sanatoriums, etc.), trainee teachers, members of contemplative religious orders, and persons whose only activity during the reference week was jury service or unpaid voluntary work for a charitable organisation.

*Part-time workers* are defined as those employed persons who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the reference week.

*Unemployed* relates to persons aged 15 and over who were not employed during the reference week and:

- (a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and:
  - (i) were available for work in the reference week or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the reference week)
  - (ii) were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and would have started in the reference week if the job had been available then; or
- (b) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week (including the whole of the reference week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

*Unemployment rate* for any group is the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force (i.e. employed plus unemployed) in the same group.

## **Income and household expenditure**

*Family income* refers to gross weekly regular income from all family members from all sources including wages and salaries (including regular overtime, penalties, etc.) plus government pensions or benefits, income from business or partnership and other income sources (includes dividends, interest, maintenance or child support, superannuation and worker's compensation/accident or sickness insurance).

*Expenditure* focuses on consumption expenditure (mainly household), although some capital expenditure is measured. Goods and services are regarded as 'consumed' if payment is made for them in the reference period or if they are acquired in the reference period.

## Glossary

### **Family care**

*Disability* can be defined as any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being. In the 1993 Disability, Aged and Carers Survey a list of disabling conditions was prepared and disability was then defined as the presence of one or more of these limitations, restrictions or impairments which had lasted, or was likely to last for a period of six months or more.

*Formal care* is defined as regulated care away from the child's home, which includes Pre-school; Before and After School Care Program; Long Day Care Centre; Family Day Care; Occasional Care and Other Formal care.

*Handicap* is defined as a limitation or restriction a person has in performing certain specific tasks associated with daily living, due to their disability.

*Informal care* is defined as non-regulated care either in the child's home or elsewhere. It includes care by (step) brothers or sisters; care by relatives (including non-custodial parent) and by non-relatives.



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